

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Annual Report



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Complete Annual Report

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OFFICE OF COUNTYWIDE COMMUNICATIONS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE
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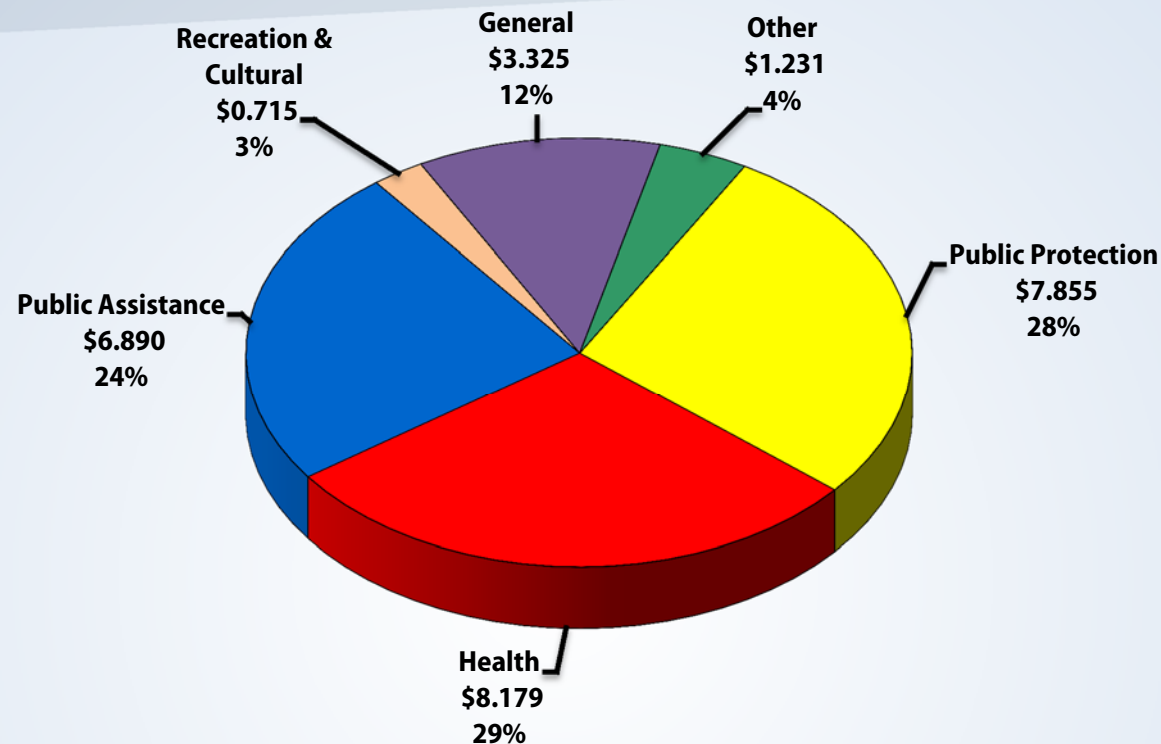


County of Los Angeles

Final Adopted Budget 2015-16

Charts

2015-16 Final Adopted Budget – \$28.195 Billion

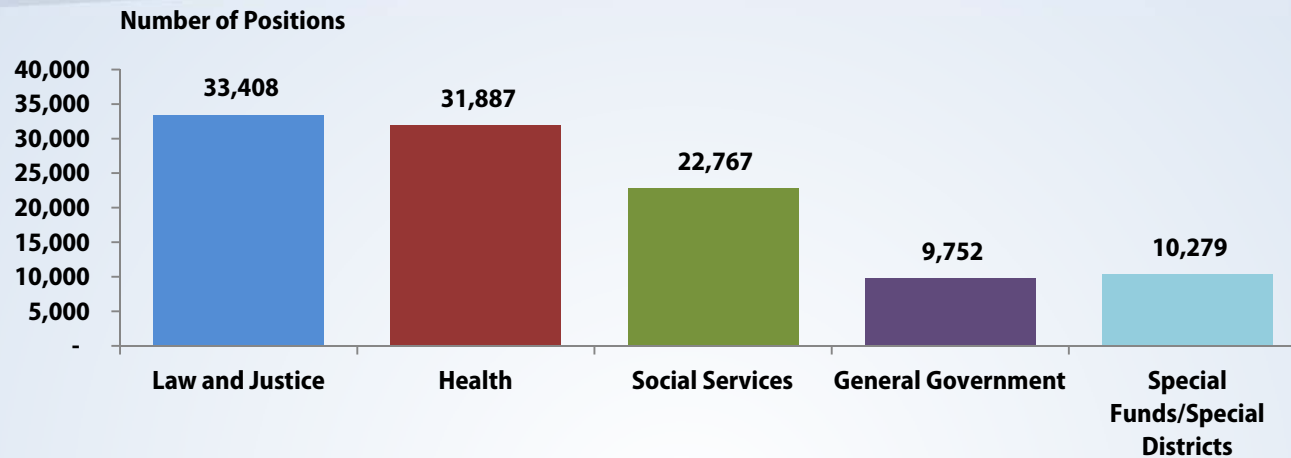


Amounts in Billions

Fund (in Billions)	FY 2014-15 Adopted Budget	FY 2015-16 Adopted Budget	Change	% Change
Total General County	\$20.948	\$21.729	\$0.781	3.7%
Special Funds/Districts	6.193	6.466	0.273	4.4%
Total Budget	\$27.141	\$28.195	\$1.054	3.9%
Budgeted Positions	105,503	108,093	2,590	2.5%

2015-16 Final Adopted Budgeted Positions

108,093



Law and Justice	
Agricultural Commissioner	389
Alternate Public Defender	294
Animal Care and Control	422
Child Support Services	1,579
Consumer Affairs	89
Coroner	227
District Attorney	2,187
Grand Jury	5
Probation - Summary	6,670
Public Defender	1,144
Regional Planning	193
Sheriff - Summary	20,159
Trial Court Operations	50
Total	33,408

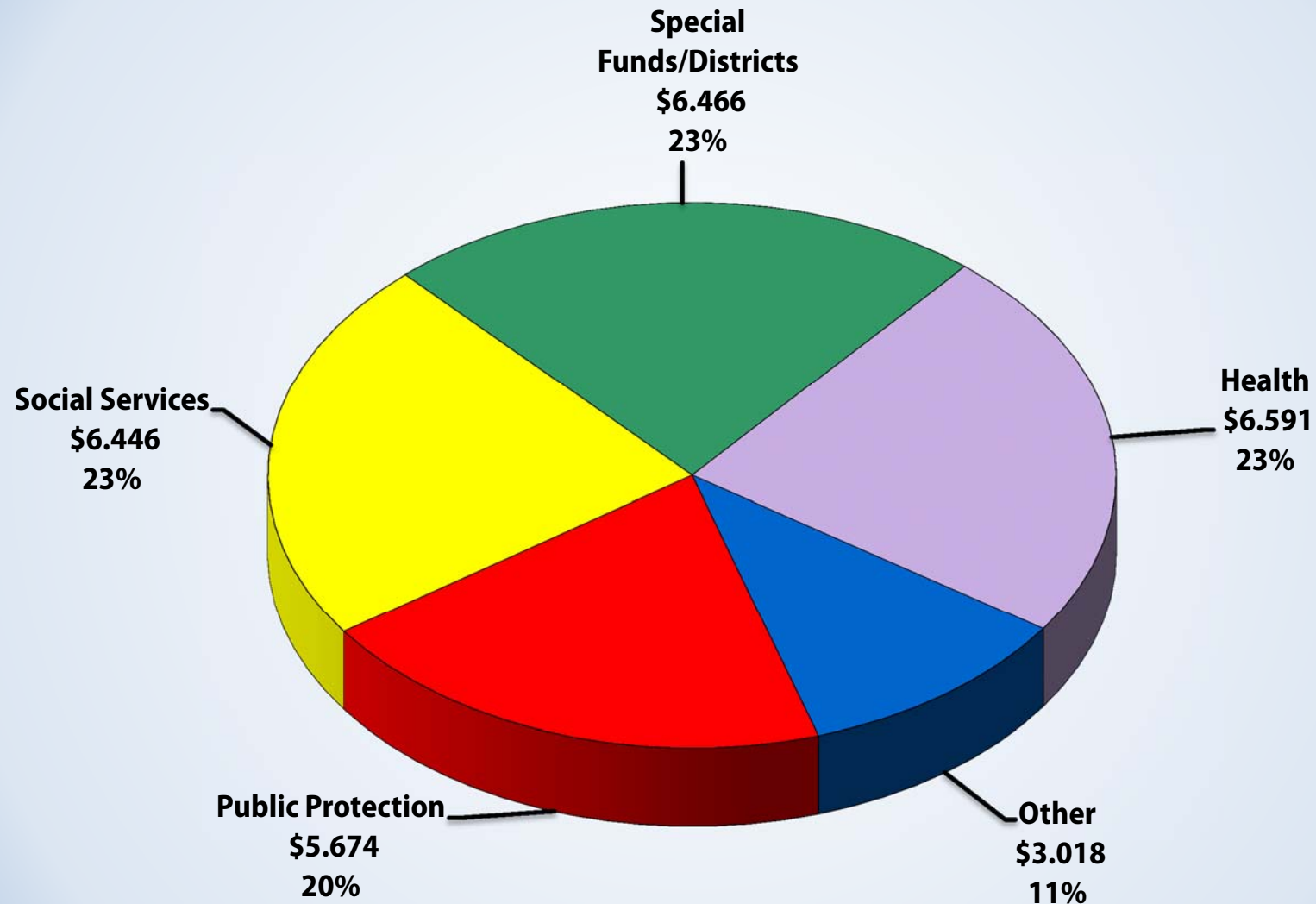
Health	
Health Services	22,085
Mental Health	5,103
Public Health - Summary	4,699
Total	31,887

Social Services	
Children and Family Services	8,397
Community and Senior Svs	539
Military and Veterans Affairs	39
Public Social Services	13,792
Total	22,767

General Government	
Assessor	1,443
Auditor-Controller	619
Beaches and Harbors	294
Board of Supervisors	407
Chief Executive Officer	539
Chief Information Officer	28
County Counsel	591
Human Resources	377
Internal Services	2,188
Museum of Art	38
Museum of Natural History	16
Parks and Recreation	1,602
Registrar-Recorder/CC	1,081
Treasurer and Tax Collector	529
Total	9,752

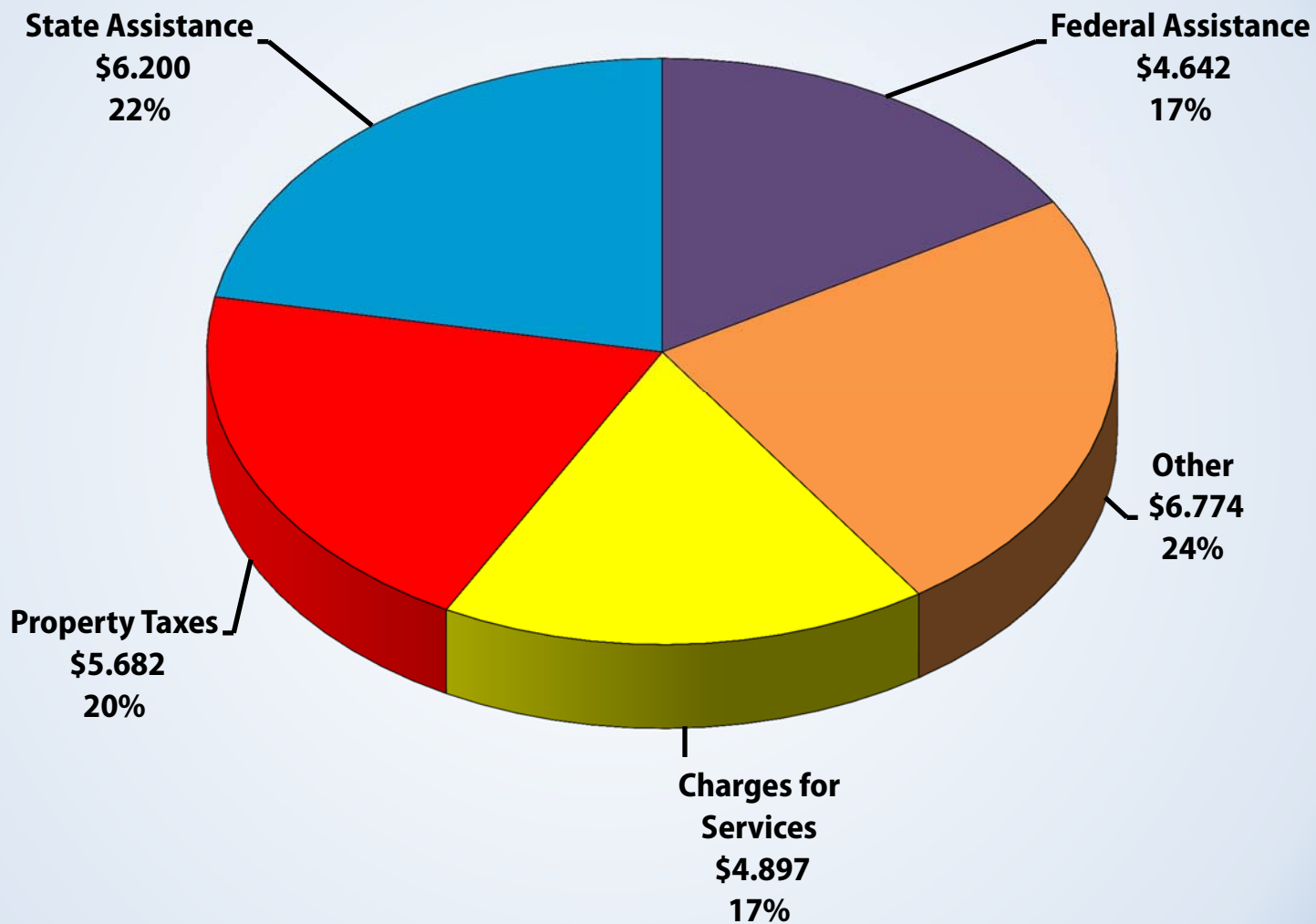
Special Funds/Special Districts	
Fire Department	4,613
Public Library	1,397
Public Works Internal Svs Fund	4,269
Total	10,279

Total Requirements \$28.195 Billion

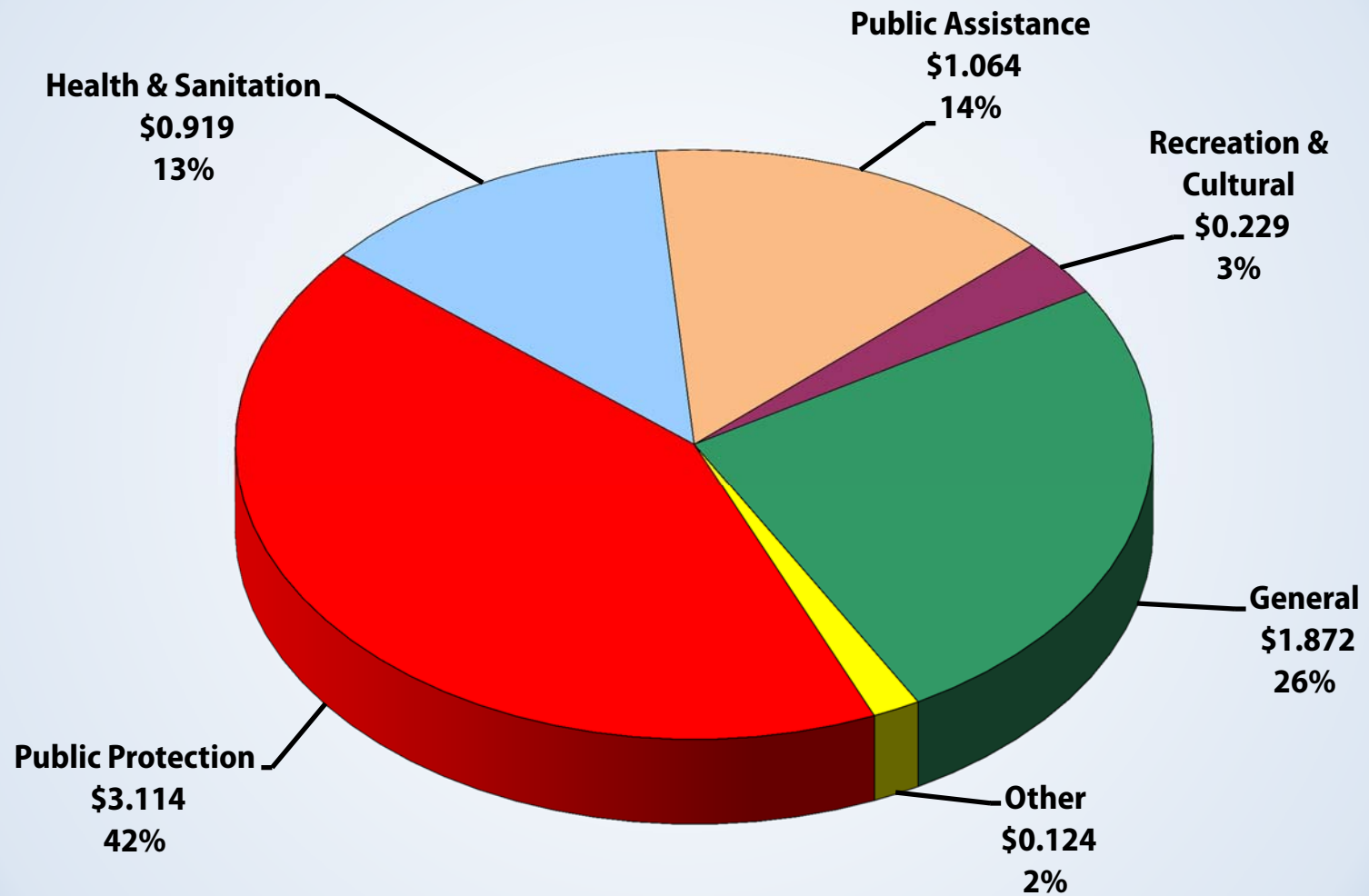


Amounts in Billions

Total Resources \$28.195 Billion

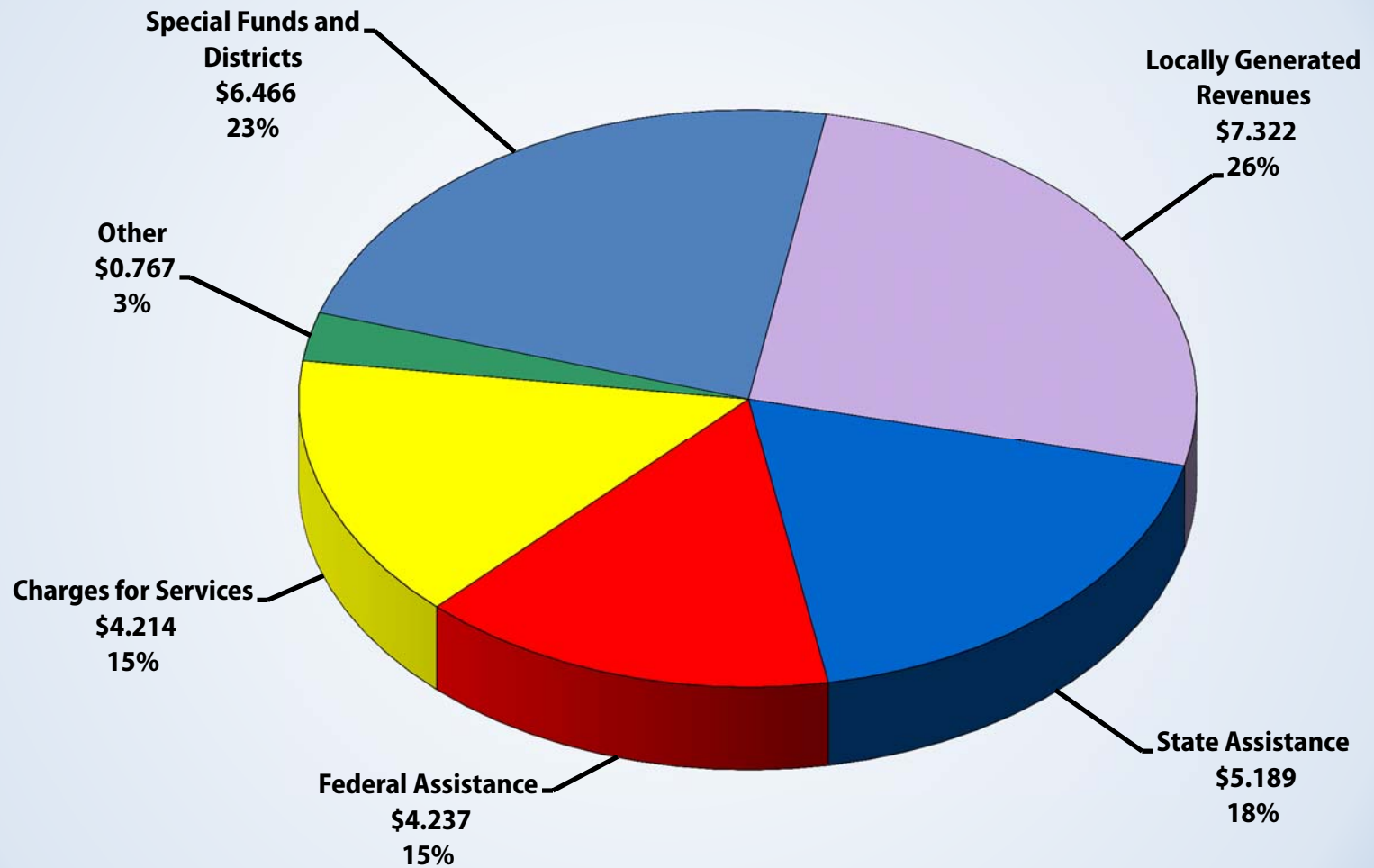


Net County Cost By Function \$7.322 Billion



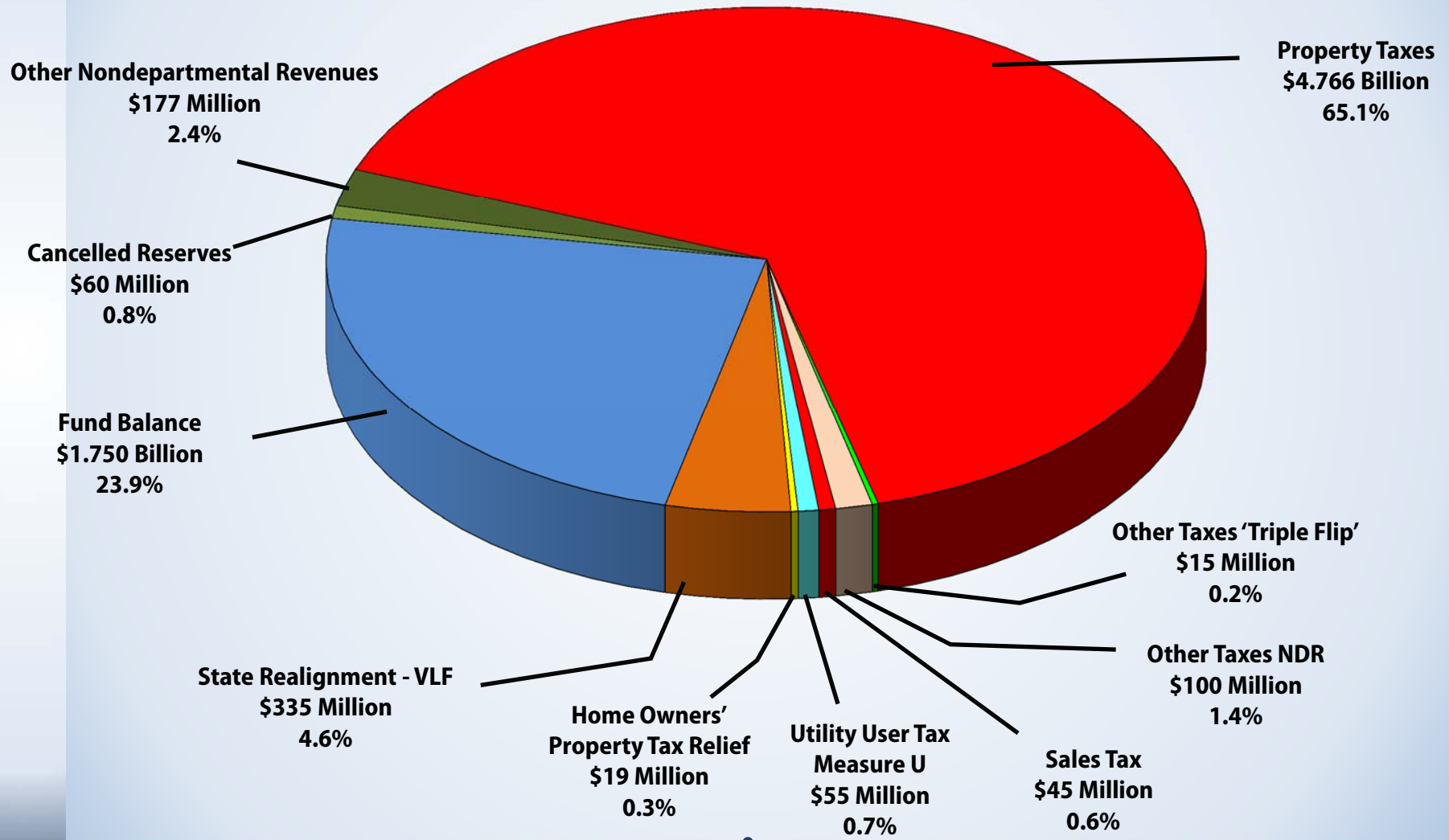
Amounts in Billions

Total Revenue \$28.195 Billion

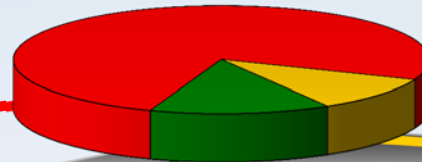


Amounts in Billions

Locally Generated Revenues \$7.322 Billion



Mandated vs. Discretionary Cost
2015-16 Final Adopted Budget
\$28.195 Billion*



NCC \$7.322 Billion (26.0%)

Program Specific Revenue/Fixed Costs
\$20.873 Billion (74.0%)

(\$ in Millions)	
Health/Social Services	\$11,083.2
Property Tax Administration	78.2
Prop 172 - Public Safety Augmentation Fund	722.2
Sheriff 611.8	
District Attorney 110.4	
Special Funds/Districts	6,466.4
Revenues That Offset Costs	2,379.4
Trial Court Funding	143.2

Flexible Costs**
\$4.439 Billion (15.7%)

Public Protection - \$1.763 Billion (6.2%) (\$ in Millions)	
Community-Based Contracts	\$4.9
Coroner	35.5
District Attorney	147.1
Diversion and Reentry	70.2
Emergency Preparedness	4.8
Fire – Lifeguards	30.7
LARICS	10.8
Probation	251.6
Provisional Financing Uses – Public Safety	56.8
Sheriff	1,150.8
All Other Costs - \$2.676 Billion (9.5%) (\$ in Millions)	
Agric. Comm./Weights & Measures	\$11.5
Animal Care and Control	32.1
Appropriations for Contingencies	15.9
Capital Projects	642.0
Consumer Affairs	8.2
Countywide Services	96.9
Extraordinary Maintenance	201.9
General Government	752.6
Health	4.2
Health-Tobacco	72.1
Homeless Services	106.7
Mental Health	54.2
Other Public Services	172.0
Parks and Recreation	145.0
Project & Facility Development	76.1
Provisional Financing Uses - Other	76.2
Public Health	102.2
Recreation and Cultural	34.4
Regional Planning	20.5
Use of Obligated Fund Balance	51.4

Non-Flexible Costs
\$2.883 Billion (10.3%)

MOE & Mandatory Costs - \$2.805 Billion (10.0%) (\$ in Millions)	
Alternate Public Defender	\$60.3
District Attorney	52.8
Health/Mental Health	718.8
Court Related (Indigent Defense \$55.9)	288.5
Probation – Other	300.4
Public Defender	197.0
Social Services	772.0
Sheriff	415.5
Other Non-Flexible Costs - \$77.9 Million (0.3%) (\$ in Millions)	
Grand Jury	\$1.8
Judgments & Damages/Insurance	25.7
Museums Obligation	50.4

*Excludes major interfund transfers of revenue that would artificially inflate the size of the total County budget

**Flexible Costs include one-time only expenditures and mandatory functions with discretionary service levels



Hilda L. Solis

SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT



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"We have to start looking at issues on a broader scale. So I'm talking about, for example, this facility here, regional healthcare, and opportunities for jobs in healthcare, and expanding our reach and doing that in a way that everyone wins in the County."

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New Trauma Center Rises

One of the issues that came up to my attention immediately was that we did not have a trauma facility from downtown Los Angeles, LAC USC Medical Center, and Pomona. Here was an opportunity, I thought, to get the County engaged again. So six weeks into my office, we began to piece together how we could make this happen. And Pomona Valley here, the hospital has been so receptive, the community came on board, along with our elected officials, so it was a collaborative effort. Now in the short span of perhaps a year or so, this will be a fully open and operating trauma center.

An 'Awesome' Year

If I could sum up how I feel about the progress that we made this past year in the County, it's awesome. It's awesome. And I would say to people that there are so many good things that the County can do. We have to start looking at issues on a broader scale. So I'm talking about, for example, this facility here, regional healthcare, and opportunities for jobs in healthcare, and expanding our reach and doing that in a way that everyone wins in the County—including our employees, but more importantly the people that entrust their lives with the County of Los Angeles.

Creating Higher Living Standards

Something that we've been struggling with in our economy is a need to bring people up to higher living standards so that they have good livable wages. And one of the things that we did immediately on the board was to help pass an increase in the minimum wage, which will be factored in over the course of five years, to \$15 an hour. But what's important is that we also work with our local businesses in unincorporated parts of L.A. County. So for example, in my district, in East Los Angeles, that is a vast, vast community—and there are many people there that could benefit from getting information about the minimum wage, but also businesses that employ people. And we made an effort to make sure that we could help small businesses transition into that, so that they wouldn't be adversely affected. The second part of that was just recently a motion that I passed regarding wage theft. And there are a lot of people in my district and throughout the County of Los Angeles, in fact, who are not aware that they have certain rights, that there are certain federal and state laws that are in place to protect people, to make sure that they get paid the minimum wage, and that they also are able to know if an employer is paying for overtime or not.

Quality of Life Matters

I think quality of life stands out for me. So if people are making good salaries—whether it's a higher minimum wage, or a livable wage, or have health care coverage—those are all very important basics that can help a person's quality of life. So I think all those things are coming together for us. Looking at how we can expand and strengthen those types of agencies and services—that is going to be a win-win for us. The fact that we're moving now toward helping to provide more diversion, housing for the homeless, helping our young people also get training and exposure to new jobs in areas that are growing—like in the healthcare industry, in the biomedical field, in I.T. and also in new environmental greening projects. All these are going to be helpful, and I know there's a real interest on the part of the board to move in that direction.



Mark Ridley-Thomas
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

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**"I believe that
healthcare is
a right, not a
privilege. In
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society, we all
deserve that."**

Making History

It's a transitional year—a year of significant progress. I wanted to be on the campus of the Martin Luther King Community Hospital because of its historic significance. History has been made anew here at the new hospital, and there is no better place for me to be in celebration of the high point of this year of service to the people of the County of Los Angeles. It's probably not easy for me to express the emotion that enveloped me on the occasion of dedicating the new hospital. So many people have worked very, very hard to get us here.

The Right to Quality Healthcare

I believe that healthcare is a right, not a privilege. In a democratic society, we all deserve that. And so to be in a place where we can say that you will receive the highest quality of care available—regardless of your income, your ethnicity, your gender, your preference, it doesn't make a difference. You come to this hospital and you will be met with competence and high quality care informed by compassion. And so to the extent that's the case...yep, pretty emotional.

Important Work Underway

The opening of the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Hospital is one stellar example when you think of what we have done as a Board of Supervisors. With respect to income inequality along the lines of the minimum wage, the living wage, issues related to wage theft, it seems to me that we have done a lot of important work. When you think about our work in terms of diversion, creating alternatives to incarceration—progress. When you think about the work that we're doing on the matter of homelessness, which I believe is a moral outrage, and we cannot tolerate the conditions in which fellow residents and citizens live, and we have an obligation to do that and we are moving on that very, very forcefully and thoughtfully. I call that progress.

Transition and Progress

This is the year of a new CEO, a new governance model. It's a transitional year—a year of significant progress.



Sheila Kuehl

SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT



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"I think what
we did this
year will pay
off for future
generations in
the short term
and in the long
term."

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A Milestone in Public Service

This is the Zev Yaroslavsky Family Support Center. We just opened it this year and it is one of the great milestones, really, for the Third District, and I think for the entire County. We brought together the services of so many different County departments in this building. And even more importantly, when you come for services in the building, you go into the entry hall, meet a navigator, they sit you down for an interview, and then they bring the services to you.

Protecting the Vulnerable

I think there are so many other things in terms of our vulnerable children; in terms of the Office of Child Protection, filling that post and developing it in a robust manner; changing the provision of health services in the jail so that our health agency provides in the jail now; adopting a large program having to do with our sexually exploited children, including a whole program under which we never refer to them any longer as prostitutes. We did a couple of motions that related to the LGBT community—very important to me—one of them to ask for a report on the ways that all of our departments can help our LGBT children. I think all of these were very, very important to our most vulnerable populations.

Moving Forward, Looking Ahead

I would say the minimum wage was extremely important. L.A. City and then the County, it brings it to more than half of all the businesses in the County on the same page in terms of paying the minimum wage. In terms of transportation, we're completing the Expo Line out to Santa Monica, we're building a new part of the Purple Line that's going to go to LACMA, and then of course then beyond to the VA. Very important in the Third District, but I think very important for transportation in the whole County.

I think what we did this year will pay off for future generations in the short term and in the long term. There are going to be thousands and thousands of people that get mental health treatment instead of being sent to jail. We united the three health agencies into one agency, to treat the whole person—I think that's going to make a big difference to people. But I think in health and in incarceration and I think, thirdly, in the way we think about helping our children ... those will be the hallmarks of this year and I think help for the future.

Optimism in Action

If I had to sum the past year in one word, I think it would be optimism. I think the optimism shown, by the kinds of motions that we've adopted over the past year, the kinds of large actions that we've taken and then the smaller focused actions, show that we believe in service, that we believe in our 100,000 workforce, and that we believe that the County is central to improving the lives of all people that live here.



Don Knabe

SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT



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KNABE.COM

"This year we have saved 16 lives, which is the most lives we have ever saved, which brings us to a total of a 140 lives that we've saved here in Los Angeles County. No name. No shame. No blame."

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Safe Surrender: A Legacy of Lives Saved

I've been blessed to represent the people of the Fourth District for the last 19 years, one year left on my term. But I think the most significant issue has been the Safe Surrender program. I can't think of anything else that I've done politically that's been non-political but had the biggest impact on lives and families than the Safe Surrender program. We do a lot of different things in the County of Los Angeles. We're the ultimate safety net. But being able to save 140 lives since 2001, and the families and the joy that has been brought: To me, if I have a legacy, that's it.

This year we have saved 16 lives, which is the most lives we have ever saved, which brings us to a total of a 140 lives that we've saved here in Los Angeles County. No name. No shame. No blame. One hundred forty lives have been saved, 140 families have been blessed and 140 mothers had the courage and the guts to do the right thing to bring that child to any hospital, any sheriff's station, or any fire station.

The Fight Against Human Trafficking

The milestones as they relate to the child sex trafficking issue obviously are very significant. Everybody thinks it's in some foreign country, when it's right here in our backyard. This is probably the most horrific crime I've ever had to deal with in my political life—girls 12, 14, as young as 10 years old. There's no conscious way any young girl like that selects an opportunity to stand on a corner. We've created a program called "There's no such thing as a child prostitute." They are victims. We have done a lot of things legislatively to create penalties for the scumbag pimps as well as the johns, but now we are focusing on the johns because we think they don't deserve a slap on the hand. They can call it child prostitution or soliciting—I call it child rape. That's what is, and that's what it's going to be, and that's what we're going after. We've come a long way in Los Angeles County. We're on the forefront nationally now. People are looking at our programs and what we're doing in the whole area of child sex trafficking because now we've raised the level of attention—that it is not in some foreign country, it's here, in our county, in our state, and in our nation.

Rancho Rises

We're here at Rancho, and with Rancho Rising 2020 coming out of the ground, you are going to see some incredible things here, from a wellness center to new outpatient clinics, to everything else here at Rancho, where miracles are performed each and every day. Tonight happens to be the annual art show, where the artists and crafters and patients here at Rancho show their works and their wares to the public. It's a fun night where they get to sort show off their artwork. It's a program we are very proud of here at Rancho, using art as a rehabilitation function. This is just a very special place.

Setting the Stage for Better Lives

We are having an expansion of library programs throughout the county, particularly in my district. That is one of my outbox items that I want to do before I leave. But what we are trying to do is to set the stage so that we as a county are prepared to deal with young people, the quality of life and the safety net which is so important here in Los Angeles County. We are the largest county in America. That's our job: the safety net. We talk about how do you help people, how do you make a difference in people's lives.



Michael D. Antonovich

SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT



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" At the top,
we have new
leadership
providing action,
and that action
translated into
repealing the
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costly, interim
structure running
the County. "

Leadership and Action

It was a year of change. We have two new Supervisors, a new Tax Assessor, a new Sheriff. We have a new County Counsel and a new Chief Executive Officer. At the top, we have new leadership providing action, and that action translated into repealing the very bureaucratic, costly, interim structure running the County. That has saved, just off the top, \$2 million by elimination of bureaucratic fat. The Sheriff's Department has done an incredible job in reforming his department. The Tax Assessor is bringing in computers to update their system, and again we just go right down that line—and with the Health Department, we've been able to consolidate.

A Wide Range of Achievements

The Productivity Commission had over \$75 million dollars in savings, and along with that we have about a \$4 billion savings since 1981-82, when the commission was established, which I initiated back in those days. It continues to be a vital part of the County of Los Angeles in improving our delivery of services, with cost effective services and economical services that save dollars that could be better used for other vital services.

For our veterans, we have established a one-stop center at the Patriotic Hall, so all the agencies are there to help our veterans with housing and other types of programs.

We were able to bring BYD, Build Your Dreams vehicle manufacturing, from China to Los Angeles County. They are now producing the electric buses in Lancaster. These will be sold nationally, which is going to help our county economically with jobs and providing a good product.

Looking Out For the Animals

We established a mobile spay-and-neuter clinic that's going out. We've had some innovations in trying to reduce the cost of adoptions, to increase those adoptions. We've been very aggressive moving forward with upgrading and building new animal shelters and we want to ensure that these animals are going to be adopted by other people. And every animal that we have presented at the Board of Supervisors, since I initiated this program many, many, years ago, has been adopted and we want to continue that. We even had a horse adopted this past year.

Pride in Service

Forbes magazine rated Los Angeles County as one of the top employers in the United States. We are one of the top employers in the United States. This is something we are very proud of. We're proud of our workforce, and we are proud of the way we deliver services.



**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER /
WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

Kurt Floren

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/
DIRECTOR OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**



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“Preventing introductions of pests and quickly eradicating those that slip into the county prevents crop and plant damage and decreases needs for pesticides. We also enforce laws and regulations regarding pesticide use by hundreds of growers and licensed pest control companies...”

Throughout Los Angeles County, the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures (ACWM) employs a team of hardworking men, women and...canines! Our Detector Dogs sniff out plant material in parcels and packages that failed to undergo required pre-shipment inspections. This is all part of our larger effort to protect home gardens, landscaping, nurseries and California agriculture from invasive, destructive insect pests, plant diseases and weeds. We deploy and monitor nearly 30,000 insect traps in residential fruit trees to detect and eradicate infestations of the Mediterranean Fruit Fly, Oriental Fruit Fly, Peach Fruit Fly and many others.

Preventing introductions of pests and quickly eradicating those that slip into the county prevents crop and plant damage and decreases needs for pesticides. We also enforce laws and regulations regarding pesticide use by hundreds of growers and licensed pest control companies operating within the county. We inspect thousands of termite fumigations and pesticide applications, providing protection to workers, residents, wildlife, native plants and the environment.

Not only can residents grow gardens free of exotic pests, but thanks to nearly 150 certified farmers' markets operating year-round under our regulation, consumers can buy fresh, quality produce directly from California farmers.

Consumers purchasing produce, meats, deli products and much more at stores do so via scales inspected by ACWM's Weights and Measures Bureau, as are all commercial weighing and measuring devices and price scanners in the county. We ensure marketplace integrity by inspecting gas pumps, airport luggage scales, utility meters and quantity labeling on packaged goods, among other things. Homes and lives are protected through our weed abatement program, in which we clear neglected properties of overgrown brush to prevent the spread of wildfires.

The people (and canines!) of ACWM work among you, making this a safe place to live, work, do business, and enjoy the rich bounty of our county and state.



ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER
Janice Y. Fukai
ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

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The Office of Alternate Public Defender, also known as “APD” for short, was created by the Board of Supervisors during the fiscal crisis of 1993 to handle cases in which the Public Defender has a conflict of interest—a move that continues to save millions of taxpayer dollars every year.

Our efforts last year primarily focused on implementing new laws and initiatives. Those include: Proposition 47, the Reduced Sentencing Initiative; Proposition 36, the Three Strikes Initiative; SB 9, the Resentencing Project for Youthful Offenders, and AB 109, the State’s Realignment Plan. Implementing these laws and initiatives will continue to be a focus for the APD in the year ahead.

Our efforts also will include collaborating with other county departments and local agencies on mental health initiatives, including: the Criminal Justice Mental Health Project, which is District Attorney Jackie Lacey’s pilot project for mental health diversion; the Third District Diversion and Alternative Sentencing Pilot Program, designed to assist those who are chronically homeless and mentally ill; and the HALO program, which provides mentally ill or developmentally disabled misdemeanants alternatives to incarceration.

Our commitment to quality service was underscored by our Judicial Survey, in which 167 judges countywide rated our performance at an average of 3.8 out of 4 in categories reflecting quality of representation, responsiveness and efficiency.

I offer my heartfelt thanks for the valued support of our Board of Supervisors, Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai and the extraordinary women and men of the APD family.

“Our commitment to quality service was underscored by our Judicial Survey, in which 167 judges countywide rated our performance at an average of 3.8 out of 4 in categories reflecting quality of representation, responsiveness and efficiency.”



ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL
Marcia Mayeda
DIRECTOR

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“Department managers and supervisors were given training on management and leadership best practices that has enhanced their effectiveness and helped develop a cadre of well-trained staff to lead the department into the future.”

Last year will be remembered as one of great beginnings for our department.

We made significant progress in the construction of a new animal care center in the city of Palmdale – the county’s first new animal care center since 1976. This state-of-the-art center, which will open in the summer of 2016, represents the first step in the department’s effort to completely renovate or replace its aging animal care centers. The average age of our animal care centers is 54 years old. The oldest one, in Downey, is 70. These aging facilities are difficult to maintain and are not designed for modern best practices in animal sheltering.

In 2015, the department presented an animal care facility replacement and refurbishment plan to the Board of Supervisors, which directed the department, the Chief Executive Office and the Department of Public Works to develop conceptual layouts and identify funding sources to replace or refurbish existing care centers. The Board also approved \$4 million to address the most critical infrastructure deficiencies in the animal care centers during the current fiscal year.

While the department moved forward in its modernization efforts, it also invested in its workforce. Department managers and supervisors were given training on management and leadership best practices that has enhanced their effectiveness and helped develop a cadre of well-trained staff to lead the department into the future.

We also made investments in our volunteer programs. The department received additional volunteer coordinator staff positions so we can grow this valuable resource. Additional training was provided to the department’s Equine Response Team, which assists our staff in rescuing horses from natural disasters. In preparation for the El Niño season, the department reviewed and enhanced all emergency preparedness protocols to help those in need.

Last year, the county also enhanced its ordinance regarding cats, with the Board approving changes that require the spay or neuter and microchipping of cats. These requirements will mean that fewer unwanted cats will be born and microchipped cats can be identified and returned to their owners. These requirements have been in place for dogs since 2006, and adding these requirements for cats will ensure greater protections for them as well.



ARTS COMMISSION
Laura Zucker
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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“In a continuing effort to bring quality arts education to all L.A. County public school students, the Arts Commission, working closely with the L.A. County Office of Education, has developed a plan for Vernon Kilpatrick High School that embeds the arts as a key strategy in LACOE’s educational model.”

The Arts Commission works to ensure that arts and culture thrives in L.A. County, and last year provided many wonderful opportunities to collaborate with our colleagues in other county departments.

The Department of Parks and Recreation Nature Centers and the Natural History Museum joined with the John Anson Ford Theatres to create preshow activities for the Ford’s Big World Fun family series. These county partners brought their nature-focused programs to the Ford, exploring the native flora and fauna of the region and enthralling more than 5,000 county residents of all ages.

Project Willowbrook: Cultivating a Healthy Community through Arts and Culture—a new dynamic model for asset mapping and public engagement in civic planning—was named as an outstanding public art project by Americans for the Arts’ Public Art Network Year in Review. This project served as a model for two continuing projects. One is called Some Place Chronicles, which celebrates the people, histories and cultures of Athens, East Rancho Dominguez, Florence-Firestone, Lennox and View Park/Windsor Hills/Ladera Heights. The other is Antelope Valley Art Outpost, where the Arts Commission is supporting a comprehensive planning process, led by the Department of Regional Planning, in the unincorporated communities of Littlerock and Sun Village by exploring these communities’ creative assets.

In a continuing effort to bring quality arts education to all L.A. County public school students, the Arts Commission, working closely with the L.A. County Office of Education, has developed a plan for Vernon Kilpatrick High School that embeds the arts as a key strategy in LACOE’s educational model. This plan is part of the Camp Kilpatrick Replacement Project, an initiative by the Department of Probation to create the new LA Model for incarcerated youth that shifts from custodial to rehabilitative care.

These collaborations are only a few examples of how the county, by deepening its understanding of our region’s creative pulse and distinct identity, is expanding the role of arts and culture in community development.



OFFICE OF THE ASSESSOR
Jeffery Prang
ASSESSOR



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“The responsibility of the Office of the Assessor is to locate all taxable property in the county and assess its value in accordance with state law. We oversee the largest property assessment roll in the nation, valuing more than 2.6 million assessable parcels annually.”

As Los Angeles County’s elected Assessor, I am committed to valuing the people we serve and the property we assess by building the most professionally staffed, technologically advanced and customer-friendly property assessment agency in the nation.

The responsibility of the Office of the Assessor is to locate all taxable property in the county and assess its value in accordance with state law. We oversee the largest property assessment roll in the nation, valuing more than 2.6 million assessable parcels annually.

Transparency and accountability are hallmarks of my administration, beginning with a new website – assessor.lacounty.gov – featuring upgraded navigation and search capabilities. My office has also been a leading partner in the establishment of a new open data initiative that provides the public with free and easy access to a variety of county data.

We also are moving forward with a replacement of our old technology systems, including the digitization of more than 2.3 million property files. We will move away from a paper-based system in an effort to expand public access to data and increase accuracy in property assessments.

My office is continuously identifying opportunities to improve our interactions with the public. Along with our county partners in the property tax family, we have established a new “one-stop” public service counter to help property owners resolve issues quickly and without being referred from one agency to another.

We are also working to address the backlog at the Assessment Appeals Board. My office has begun to utilize a new data exchange system that will improve collaboration with related county departments, increase efficiency, and reduce bureaucratic red tape.

Employees at the Office of the Assessor possess outstanding expertise and a helpful, friendly attitude. We hope our new services, combined with enhanced professional development for our appraisers and staff, will improve the customer service experience. My pledge is to continue to enhance our approach to public service – our top priority.

On behalf of the men and women of the Office of the Assessor, thank you to the residents of the County of Los Angeles for the opportunity to be of service. Please do not hesitate to contact us – we are here to help.



AUDITOR-CONTROLLER
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AUDITOR - CONTROLLER

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“We continue to optimize our business operations through creative information technology solutions. For example, the county’s Quality and Productivity Commission bestowed its top award (Golden Eagle) in 2014 for the Mileage Authorization and Reimbursement System (MARS).”

We are proud to serve the public by fulfilling our many responsibilities as the county’s internal auditor and controller. We have technology responsibilities and resources, which enable us to develop and maintain many of the county’s core financial systems. Our organization relies on more than 500 employees, and we are pleased to report some of last year’s noteworthy accomplishments.

- Discouraged county fraud by overseeing the completion of more than 1,200 investigations of alleged misconduct by county employees and contractors.
- Completed 50 internal audits that improved county’s internal control, identified misuse of public funds, and curtailed wasteful spending.
- Provided contract monitoring training for over 350 county staff and contractors and implemented the Countywide Contract Monitoring Certification Program that includes a comprehensive curriculum covering seven topics with thirty-two hours of classroom instruction.
- Received the 33rd consecutive Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association.
- Represented the county during the Board of Equalization’s Sales and Use Tax audits, saving the County approximately \$6.7 million by scrutinizing the estimated tax liability.
- Visited 64 contracted group homes to increase the awareness of the Children’s Ombudsman Program and to provide an independent resource for the children within the Los Angeles County Placement system.
- Distributed over \$10 billion of property taxes to: the County, 88 cities in the county, approximately 100 school districts, and various special districts and other public agencies.

We continue to optimize our business operations through creative information technology solutions. For example, the county’s Quality and Productivity Commission bestowed its top award (Golden Eagle) in 2014 for the Mileage Authorization and Reimbursement System (MARS).

For more information, please go to the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller website, at auditor.lacounty.gov.



BEACHES AND HARBORS

Gary Jones

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“The Marina celebrated its 50th birthday in April with a three-day event at Burton Chace Park. There, thousands of visitors enjoyed four visiting tall ships, boat and classic car shows, and other activities for the entire family. . .”

As stewards of the county's stunning coastline and Marina del Rey harbor, the Department of Beaches and Harbors supports clean, safe and accessible beaches and public spaces in the Marina while promoting quality of life, economic vitality, boating and other recreational opportunities.

Last year, Marina del Rey, the nation's largest man-made small craft harbor, generated \$27 million for vital public services provided by the county. The Marina celebrated its 50th birthday in April with a three-day event at Burton Chace Park. There, thousands of visitors enjoyed four visiting tall ships, boat and classic car shows, and other activities for the entire family, including historical harbor tours that were extended through the summer and fall.

A new program that included both dance, opera, and Broadway tunes was introduced in the award-winning Marina del Rey summer concert series, which attracted a record-breaking 38,000 attendees. A youth sailing program was brought back to the waterfront at Chace Park, which also offered summer movie nights and a Snow Wonder event that included sledding for the winter holidays.

Construction commenced to replace 40-year-old docks at the department-managed Anchorage 47 as part of a redevelopment effort that will bring modern boating amenities to the Marina. Plans were set for significant upgrades to the picnic pavilion and promenade at Marina Beach and improvements at the Marina's Yvonne Burke Park. Lease agreements negotiated and approved will provide for a new wetland park, new public transient docks, and renovation of the promenade and realignment of the bike trail for improved usability.

Some of the more than 70 million visitors to Los Angeles County beaches enjoyed new facilities at Dan Blocker and Will Rogers beaches that include bluff-top view decks, ADA access ramps and parking. Long awaited repairs at aging restroom facilities began at Royal Palms, Redondo and Manhattan Beaches, while a years-long effort to upgrade septic systems at Malibu's public beach facilities was completed, assuring improved water quality in the Santa Monica Bay and other benefits. Sand berms were constructed on the beaches to protect facilities during the El Niño storm season.

We remain committed to caring for your coast!



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE
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“Over the years, the county has earned a national reputation of being a careful steward of public funds. That strong foundation allowed us to weather the Great Recession without layoffs or service cuts.”

LACOUNTYANNUALREPORT.COM

In 2015, the Chief Executive Office worked to create a nimble, flexible and transparent governance structure to rapidly confront the county's most critical needs. This new model, embraced by the Board of Supervisors, has allowed us to dismantle barriers to effective and efficient government.

Among other things, we laid the groundwork for several major Board initiatives that have transformed county services in key areas. They include: the integration of our three health agencies, the launch of the Office of Child Protection and the creation of a far-reaching initiative to combat the region's growing homelessness.

These groundbreaking efforts—undertaken with the help of short-term, multi-disciplinary teams—brought together departments throughout the county with one overriding mission: to better serve our residents, many of whom rely heavily on our safety-net services.

The 2015-2016 budget that our office successfully submitted for Board approval further reflected this heightened emphasis on targeting our most urgent issues for rapid action. Substantial funding and positions were directed at helping to bring reforms to the Sheriff's Department, raising staffing levels in the child welfare system and providing funding for the county's homelessness efforts.

To help ensure the success of these efforts, the Chief Executive Office focused internally on key operational improvements. We eliminated, for example, our office's Deputy CEO structure, which has resulted in new efficiencies, greater effectiveness and more accountability.

In addition, last year we launched the Open Data Website as a model of government transparency, initiated a plan to fund retiree health benefits and coordinated efforts for phased-in increases to minimum and living wages. We also secured a ratings outlook upgrade from 'Stable' to 'Positive' from two of the nation's largest credit rating agencies

Over the years, the county has earned a national reputation of being a careful steward of public funds. That strong foundation allowed us to weather the Great Recession without layoffs or service cuts. Throughout 2016 and in the years ahead, the job of the Chief Executive Office will be to continue that reputation and keep our foundation strong.



CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES
Philip Browning
DIRECTOR



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“A top priority has been the hiring of 1,200 new social workers to help reduce high caseloads, allowing our social workers more time to provide quality services for our clients and conduct thorough investigations to ensure child safety.”

The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services continues to move forward in providing the best possible services and supports to the 36,000 children and their families served each day.

A top priority has been the hiring of 1,200 new social workers to help reduce high caseloads, allowing our social workers more time to provide quality services for our clients and conduct thorough investigations to ensure child safety.

Our Training Academies have fully implemented simulation trainings, where newly-hired social workers role-play scenarios they are likely to encounter in the field. These innovative “sim labs” are designed to resemble the interior of a small family home and have drawn the attention of other child welfare agencies.

At the sim labs, social workers try their hand at conducting investigations and receive immediate feedback from trainers, as well as law enforcement, medical and legal consultants.

Our new web-based policy manual, meanwhile, provides social workers with quick and easy access to information so they can make critical decisions on safety issues in a timely manner.

This online tool has drawn positive reviews from our employees. The sim lab and the web-based manual are just two examples of Los Angeles County leading the way in improving child safety.

None of these successes would be possible without the support of our Board of Supervisors, our Chief Executive Officer and our partners in the county and the community. I thank you all for your support. I especially would like to thank the women and men of our department who work tirelessly every day to ensure the health and well-being of the children we serve.



CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES

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“Nationally, child support lifts 1 million people out of poverty every year, making us one of the top three safety net programs, along with the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.”

The Los Angeles County Child Support Services Department (CSSD) is the largest locally-run child support agency west of the Mississippi. We are committed to a family-centered approach, working to ensure that both parents provide financial, medical and emotional support for their children.

Nationally, child support lifts 1 million people out of poverty every year, making us one of the top three safety net programs, along with the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. Today, establishing or modifying a child support order has never been easier. You can simply visit the State of California Child Support website – childsup.ca.gov/resources – call our Customer Contact Center (866) 901-3212, or come into any of our six conveniently located offices throughout Los Angeles County.

Providing routinely exceptional customer service is our goal; CSSD conducts 120,000 interviews annually and responds to over 3,000 calls daily. Monthly, approximately 1,400 child support cases are heard in four courtrooms located at Central Civil West Superior Court.

Outstanding customer service also calls for a safe and inviting environment for our employees and the public. Our three newest offices—in the Antelope Valley, Pomona and Van Nuys—were designed with this in mind. All have open and inviting reception areas, interview spaces to allow for both privacy and spaciousness, along with children’s play areas. The benefits are clear: a welcoming venue for our customers, a foundation for building trust and an atmosphere that fosters collaboration. I look forward to continuing this customer-centered approach with our City of Commerce Headquarters’ public contact office redesign in early 2016.

Thank you for taking the time to learn a little about the Child Support Services Department.



COMMUNITY AND SENIOR SERVICES
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“This was a very exciting and challenging year that provided opportunities to implement new programs and redesign and improve current services to help us more effectively serve our communities.”

I am proud to lead a department that provides essential services that positively affect the well-being of the residents and communities of Los Angeles County. Our critical services provide stability, safety and health to our constituents. We provide employment and business services, investigate elder and dependent adult abuse and provide services to seniors so they can age gracefully at home.

This was a very exciting and challenging year that provided opportunities to implement new programs and redesign and improve current services to help us more effectively serve our communities.

- The department strategically redesigned the county's Employment and Training programs. The new design aligns services with high-growth industries and employers to ensure jobseekers have access to training and employment with career pathways and sustainable wages.
- We distributed more than 2.4 million fresh meals to older adults.
- We began efforts to establish mobility services in the unincorporated areas.
- Our Social Workers investigated over 40,000 elder and dependent adult abuse cases.
- We served more than 4,400 youth participants and helped over 5,000 residents access various career services, job-ready training, and other valuable opportunities to enhance career opportunities.
- Our Los Angeles County Youth Job Employment Program provided more than 12,000 youth with jobs that exposed them to the job market, possible career choices, and valuable lifelong lessons.
- Our Dispute Resolution Program provided mediation services to over 22,000 participants.
- Every year, our 14 Community and Senior Centers provide our residents access to valuable services and as such, we've made significant investments to remodel and upgrade several of our centers to help us better serve our residents.

We continue to strive for excellence in building and developing programs that support the well-being of our communities and our residents.



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION/
HOUSING AUTHORITY

Sean Rogan
DIRECTOR



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**“In the past year,
our economic
development
programs helped
21 local merchants
revitalize their
storefronts and
provided \$1.3 million
in assistance through
our commercial loan
programs to help
business owners
create or retain 60
jobs.”**

The past year was comprised of significant achievements for the Community Development Commission and Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles.

We continued to be designated as a High Performer by HUD among our federally-funded programs, while receiving prestigious recognition from the county as one of the Top 10 models of quality and productivity for Coteau III, the first newly constructed supportive housing development for foster youth.

We are proud of the reach of our programs in supporting the vitality of county businesses. In the past year, our economic development programs helped 21 local merchants revitalize their storefronts and provided \$1.3 million in assistance through our commercial loan programs to help business owners create or retain 60 jobs. Further, our Business Technology Center has helped 30 sprouting companies grow into stable businesses, four of which recently graduated into self-sufficiency.

Additionally, the Housing Authority continues its commitment to end chronic homelessness among veterans by competing for Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing vouchers. Through June 2015, we have been awarded nearly 1,300 vouchers with another 270 on their way. In addition, we continue to partner with non-profits to develop new affordable housing for our most vulnerable populations.

These projects exemplify our commitment to providing quality service delivery to individuals, families, and businesses. The Commission and Housing Authority look ahead to the upcoming year with enthusiasm knowing our collective spirit and work ethic will allow us to maintain our designation as a high performing agency. We look forward to carrying out our mission to Build Better Lives and Better Neighborhoods for you, the residents of Los Angeles County.



CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS

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“Our roots are always in consumer protection and we took great strides to strengthen them last year. Our partnerships with law enforcement and prosecuting agencies led to several arrests in our fraud investigations.”

The Department of Consumer and Business Affairs had an exceptional year with significant change, growth and expansion to more effectively serve the residents of Los Angeles County. Most notably, we took on a new department name—and accompanying logo—to better reflect our mission of promoting a fair and vibrant marketplace for consumers, businesses and communities.

Last year, we proudly merged the County’s Office of Small Business into our department. This unit, now called Small Business Services, contributes to Los Angeles County’s growing economy by certifying local small businesses and connecting small business owners with valuable contracting opportunities.

The newest Small Business Services program is the county’s Small Business Concierge. It’s a one-stop shop for any budding entrepreneur in Los Angeles County to get the answers and advice they need to start a successful small business.

Last year, the Board of Supervisors tasked us with managing a series of Business Forums across the county to get a more complete picture of the opinions of the labor and business communities regarding the county’s proposed minimum wage increase. The Board passed an ordinance to raise the minimum wage in the unincorporated areas of the county, and in the year ahead, our department will proudly assume the important task of enforcing the ordinance through our new Wage Enforcement Program.

Our roots are always in consumer protection and we took great strides to strengthen them last year. Our partnerships with law enforcement and prosecuting agencies led to several arrests in our fraud investigations. We worked with local and federal agencies to help combat immigration services fraud and enforce consumer product recalls. And our mediation service grew to help alleviate the burden of crowded courtrooms.

We look forward to another successful year of effective and caring service. Please call us, visit us online, or stop by one of our office locations if you need our assistance. It’s our pleasure to work for you.



COUNTY COUNSEL

Mary Wickham

COUNTY COUNSEL



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The Office of the Los Angeles County Counsel provides legal advice to the Board of Supervisors, county departments and other county entities in the nation's largest and most diverse county.

I am proud and honored to serve as the fifteenth County Counsel and to be the second woman to hold this position. Our office is one of the largest municipal civil law offices in the country, with more than 300 attorneys and 500 employees. We have consistently enjoyed the reputation of being among the finest public law offices. Our alumni include judges, legal scholars and authors, as well as business and political leaders. We are a culturally diverse group of talented attorneys privileged to advise our clients on a variety of matters including some of the most critical social issues of our time.

Our office utilizes both individual expertise as well as a cross divisional team approach to develop strategies and solutions. We provide training and professional development opportunities for attorneys and support staff in order to develop a high level of skill, opportunities and challenges so the office remains a desirable long term career choice. We are committed to keeping current with technological advancements so we can more effectively and efficiently serve our clients. I encourage you to explore our website to learn more about our mission, history and organization.

“Values are the underlying principles that guide operations, decisions, and staff. A value-driven approach simply involves applying core values to emerging business issues and decisions.”



DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Jackie Lacey
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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“Most important, my staff worked tirelessly to keep the public safe from violent criminals. It is my honor to serve as the leader of this distinguished organization. I have done my best to represent the interests of the residents of Los Angeles County.”

As your elected District Attorney, I take great pride in leading the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Last year, my office led the way on some very important issues.

We established a Human Trafficking Unit that focuses on putting pimps behind bars and helping their victims – some as young as 11 years old. In the first year, the number of human trafficking cases filed nearly tripled.

For those young victims, we created the First Step Diversion Program, which works with nongovernmental agencies to get children who were forced into prostitution off the streets and into programs to help them regain their lives.

My office also launched the OSHA and Environmental Crimes Rollout Program to provide extra support to agencies investigating environmental crimes, occupational deaths or serious workplace injuries.

To safeguard seniors, we unveiled the Elder Financial Abuse Outreach Campaign, which disseminates valuable information about scams that target them and their assets.

My office also is working closely with business leaders on how best to protect consumers from computer network intrusions that jeopardize our bank accounts and credit ratings.

As founder and chair of the Los Angeles County Criminal Justice Mental Health Project, I have assembled a multidisciplinary group of experts representing an array of stakeholders to develop a comprehensive mental health diversion program.

In the courtroom, my office sustained efforts to hold public officials accountable under the law. Seven former City of Bell officials were sentenced for their roles in the most significant public corruption case prosecuted in Los Angeles County in more than a decade.

Most important, my staff worked tirelessly to keep the public safe from violent criminals. It is my honor to serve as the leader of this distinguished organization. I have done my best to represent the interests of the residents of Los Angeles County.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Lori Glasgow
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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“In addition to maintaining the Board’s official records, which date back to the 1850’s, the Executive Office provides a wide array of administrative services to the Board...”

The Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors supports the board’s five elected members in performing their duties as the governing body of the nation’s largest county. In addition to maintaining the Board’s official records, which date back to the 1850’s, the Executive Office provides a wide array of administrative services to the Board, including technology, accounting, procurement, personnel, payroll and facility management. The office also administers the Assessment Appeals Board and provides oversight of the County Equity Oversight Panel, the Conflict of Interest Codes and enforcement of the Lobbyist Ordinance.

This past year’s accomplishments were significant:

The Office of Inspector General was created to provide independent oversight and monitoring of Sheriff’s Department operations and making policy recommendations to the Board on highly complex and sensitive issues. Those include jail conditions, the inmate complaint process and allegations of misconduct and excessive force by Sheriff’s Department personnel.

As part of the Executive Office’s efforts to improve operational efficiencies, we implemented a database interface engine that now makes possible the exchange of data among divisions and county departments.

The Executive Office provided a variety of services needed for the transition between two outgoing members of the Board of Supervisors and their successors, who were sworn in on December 1, 2014. This effort included transitioning staff, equipment and facilities to ensure the new Supervisors would be ready for business immediately after taking office.

And, finally, we continued our collaborative efforts with other county departments by designing a new system for managing and tracking report requests by the Board. This system can track and share information between the Executive Office, Board offices and other county departments, generate customized reports and provide for document retention.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FIRE CHIEF

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“The Los Angeles County Fire Department is an “all-risk” organization, meaning that we can handle any emergency or large scale disaster through a variety of operations. We have the skills, tools and equipment to assist you in any emergency situation.”

For 92 years, the Los Angeles County Fire Department has been on a mission to keep you from harm's way. Today, almost 4,000 sworn firefighters and lifeguards, and more than 700 professional staff, report for duty to protect your life, your property and your environmental health. We provide a highly advanced array of fire protection, life safety and other emergency services.

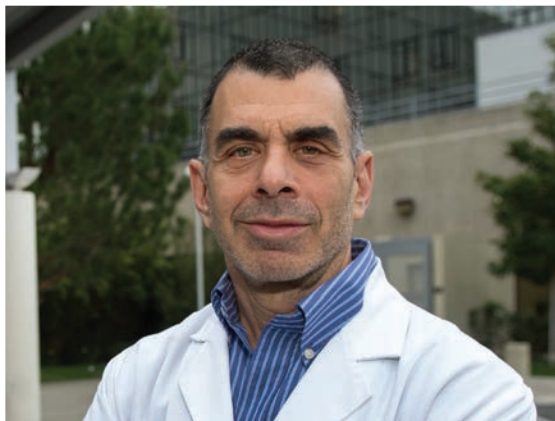
We train daily and are on standby around the clock from fire stations serving 58 cities in the county and all of its unincorporated communities. Our lifeguards also protect more than 70 million annual beachgoers along the county's world-renowned coastline.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department is an “all-risk” organization, meaning that we can handle any emergency or large scale disaster through a variety of operations. We have the skills, tools and equipment to assist you in any emergency situation.

This past year, we have focused on the launch of our new Emergency Medical Services Bureau. While our paramedics and emergency medical technicians continue to provide skillful pre-hospital care, they are now using new technologies to completely modernize the way in which they deliver these services to you.

Stay informed about our services and programs by connecting with us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, and our website at fire.lacounty.gov. Please take the time to let us know how we are doing by commenting through our website or our social media pages. We welcome your ideas and feedback.

Thank you for placing your trust in us to keep you and your family safe.



HEALTH SERVICES

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“True to our mission, we launched the My Health LA program and enrolled more than 80,000 low-income members who didn’t qualify for coverage expansion to ensure their access to comprehensive medical care.”

This past year was a memorable one for the Department of Health Services. Tens of thousands of county residents gained healthcare coverage under the Affordable Care Act and chose DHS as their provider.

True to our mission, we launched the My Health LA program and enrolled more than 80,000 low-income members who didn’t qualify for coverage expansion to ensure their access to comprehensive medical care.

With the support of our labor partners, we continued our work to build a stronger health system. More than 470,000 patients are now empaneled in patient-centered primary care homes, where they receive longitudinal care from a team of providers. We deployed a new electronic medical record system, invested in pharmacy automation, unveiled a new outpatient call center system and began a robotic surgery program.

We opened a new Emergency and Surgery building at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and two state-of-the-art health centers: the Martin Luther King, Jr. Outpatient Center in South Los Angeles and the High Desert Regional Health Center in Lancaster. Incorporating natural light and art installations, these LEED-certified facilities use less energy, promote healing and redefine perceptions of public facilities.

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency began a community paramedicine pilot project to transport lower-acuity patients to alternative care settings, like urgent care centers, that could be a model for other EMS jurisdictions in the state and country.

And guided by a “housing first” model, we developed several new supportive housing projects, like the Star apartments in Skid Row, to reduce chronic homelessness. By moving the highest users of emergency services into supportive housing, we decrease medical costs while giving these individuals the dignity they deserve.

With the support of the Board of Supervisors and many stakeholders, our county-run health system is on solid ground and poised for a bright future.



HUMAN RESOURCES

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“DHR strives to align human resources strategies with the county’s business objectives to enable our departments and employees to thrive.”

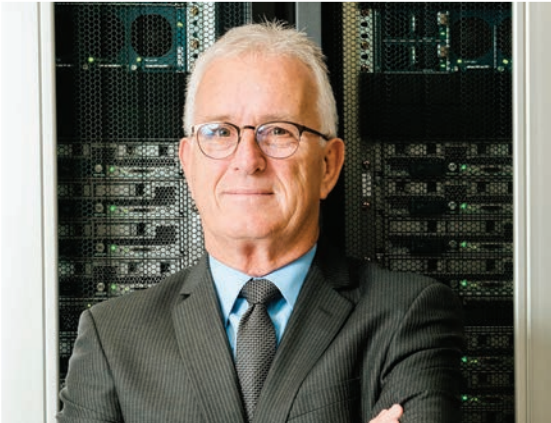
The Department of Human Resources is dedicated to providing innovative, efficient and effective solutions to our county partners by recruiting, developing and retaining exceptional and diverse talent for public service. Under the leadership of our Board of Supervisors and Chief Executive Officer, DHR supports our workforce of approximately 100,000 employees, who serve in 35 departments.

The County of Los Angeles was honored with the prestigious Forbes America’s Best Employers designation (Ranked 115) because of our employee benefits, our commitment to developing our employees, the expanse of our operations and our strong passion for serving the 10 million people who call Los Angeles County home.

DHR strives to align human resources strategies with the county’s business objectives to enable our departments and employees to thrive. To this end, DHR implemented an enterprise-wide online application system (NeoGov), which provides a more streamlined application experience for those seeking employment opportunities with the county. Additionally, we overhauled our website to attract and engage prospective candidates. We also enhanced our employee development initiatives by revamping the process for evaluating managers, launching a 360-degree assessment tool, and providing HR certification training for our human resources professionals through the International Public Management Association. Further, DHR added a Financial Wellness component to our already outstanding County Wellness Program, to assist our employees in managing their finances and successfully planning for the future.

The Department of Human Resources was honored with several awards this year. Specifically, we received Government Information Technology awards for our expansive NeoGov rollout, as well as for our information security program. We also received National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards for our Absence Management System, which electronically tracks employee leaves, and for our Executive Leadership Development Program, which is provided in partnership with USC.

DHR is a center of expertise for all things HR. We look forward to providing out-of-the-box solutions to support our Board and county departments in establishing pipeline programs for employment, providing additional development opportunities and career paths for our internal workforce, and continuing our high standard of customer service for our employees and the public we are privileged to serve.



INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
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ACTING DIRECTOR

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“In the past year, ISD streamlined the delivery of the county’s private information technology cloud solution, providing secure and affordable servers to support departmental business missions.”

LACOUNTYANNUALREPORT.COM

The Internal Services Department (ISD) provides critical support services to county and local governments, county residents and the business community.

This includes: operating the county’s primary data center and telecommunications infrastructure for data, telephone and radio systems; maintenance and operations of county buildings, parking lots and power plants; leadership of the county’s environmental sustainability programs; and oversight of the county’s contracting process and functioning, statutorily, as its purchasing agent.

In the past year, ISD streamlined the delivery of the county’s private information technology cloud solution, providing secure and affordable servers to support departmental business missions. ISD is also working to expand the county’s data network to accommodate increased bandwidth needs. ISD completed a pilot to install 119 Electronic Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) stations at 39 county locations to serve employee and public needs for plug-in vehicle charging, implemented the Countywide Contracts Management System and increased Local Small Business Enterprise registrations for participation in county solicitations by 84 percent through targeted outreach prior to transferring the Office of Small Business to the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs.

ISD, in partnership with the Treasurer and Tax Collector, launched the L.A. County residential Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program, which allows homeowners to finance energy efficiency and water conservation retrofits and finance them through annual property assessments

Working with the Chief Executive Office, ISD also initiated a pilot concept of facility management at the Zev Yaroslavsky Family Support Center in Van Nuys. The new facility houses seven departments with more than 1,000 employees, with ISD providing building management, custodial, mail messenger, maintenance, parking and information technology services.

Programs now underway include the development of a countywide data center consolidation program into a common ISD-managed data center; acquisition of leased commercial data-center space to replace the Downey data center and facilitate consolidation; an assessment with the CEO of countywide facilities and numerous deferred maintenance projects; contract training and consultation to county departments, and continued deployments of EVSE stations and bike racks at county facilities.

ISD is proud to be an important part of the county team. We work hard to provide innovative and high-quality services to our fellow departments, local governments and the residents and businesses of Los Angeles County.



MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER
Dr. Mark Fajardo
CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER-CORONER

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“It is with optimism that we move forward, to continue to provide the best service, of the highest quality, to the people of Los Angeles County. None of this would be possible without the dedicated staff and personnel of the department who consistently go the extra mile. . .”

As the Chief Medical Examiner-Coroner of Los Angeles County, my entire Department and I look forward to providing quality, compassionate and timely service to all of our customers, including decedent's loved ones, law enforcement, judges and attorneys in the criminal justice system, funeral directors, foreign consulates and the news media.

We are proud to be a leader in death investigation and are accredited by many professional organizations, including: the National Association of Medical Examiners; the Institute of Medical Quality/California Medical Association for the departments continuing medical education program; the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for the Forensic Pathology Fellowship program; and the American Society of Crime Laboratories Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board for our forensic labs as well as being certified by the Peace Officers Standards and Training of the State of California.

We are nearing completion on the refurbishment of our biological building, modernizing the autopsy facilities with state-of-the-art equipment and the expansion of our refrigeration unit to provide greater capacity and more efficient workflow. Other infrastructure improvements include the implementation of a new case management system, which will replace our antiquated programs, and the launch of our new website. Our objective to establish a DNA laboratory continues to move forward with our final requirement to recruit a DNA lead scientist.

It is with optimism that we move forward, to continue to provide the best service, of the highest quality, to the people of Los Angeles County. None of this would be possible without the dedicated staff and personnel of the department who consistently go the extra mile to ensure that the work they deliver is exemplary.

As always, we thank both the Board of Supervisors and the Chief Executive Officer for the consistent, ongoing support received by this office over the years and in the years to come.

Thank you for your time.



“We sharpened our focus on issues facing our community, working to end homelessness, divert people with a mental illness from arrest and incarceration and address the needs of vulnerable children and youth, including those experiencing abuse and trauma.”

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Last year, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health staff, agencies, families and clients worked together to promote hope, wellness and recovery for people suffering from mental illness. We sharpened our focus on issues facing our community, working to end homelessness, divert people with a mental illness from arrest and incarceration and address the needs of vulnerable children and youth, including those experiencing abuse and trauma.

In the area of homeless programs: Last year, DMH invested \$18.25 million in Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds for housing, bringing our total commitment to date to more than \$142 million and producing 934 units of permanent housing for youth, adults, older adults and families. In addition, we expanded mental health services in Skid Row and implemented eight homeless outreach teams throughout Los Angeles County. The full implementation of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (also known as “Laura’s Law”) during this year brings yet another option for helping DMH reach those who are critically in need of assistance.

In an effort to divert individuals with mental illness from incarceration, DMH expanded Mental Health Urgent Care Centers (UCCs). Building on last year’s successful opening of a UCC on the campus of MLK Community Hospital, DMH expanded the Olive View UCC and re-opened the Westside UCC. Additional UCCs are planned for the coming year. These programs are proving effective. During 2015, law enforcement officers brought 2,612 individuals to these centers for treatment instead of arrest. DMH also expanded teams that partner mental health professionals with law enforcement to more sensitively respond to calls involving those who may have a mental illness, adding capacity in 11 cities and the Los Angeles Sheriff’s Department’s north county jurisdiction.

DMH also successfully engaged and supported vulnerable youth with mental illnesses, including those who are homeless, by increasing drop-in centers. And, as part of the Board of Supervisors-initiated multi-agency response for combating the commercial sexual exploitation of our most vulnerable children and youth, the department, with the direct support of Board offices, developed a curriculum and trained close to 300 clinical staff to enhance awareness and increase specific clinical skills for providing trauma-informed care and services to young victims.

We know that collaboration is the key to achieving wellness. We are proud to report that over the past two years, 3,729 individuals have been trained in Mental Health First Aid – including the staff of 7 other county departments, 278 representatives of faith-based organizations, staff of community colleges and housing authorities, and interested community members. We look forward to an exciting 2016—a year in which we will continue to enhance our efforts through partnership.



MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Ruth A. Wong

BRIGADIER GENERAL (RET), U.S. AIR FORCE

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“Our veteran service officers provide benefit counseling, claims development and case management to more than 300,000 veterans in Los Angeles County. During 2015, we filed 16,000 veterans’ claims, which generated more than \$21 million in federal benefit awards.”

Military and Veterans Affairs is proud to serve the military, veterans and families. Our veteran service officers provide benefit counseling, claims development and case management to more than 300,000 veterans in Los Angeles County. During 2015, we filed 16,000 veterans’ claims, which generated more than \$21 million in federal benefit awards.

The department operates from 13 locations, including our headquarters at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall in downtown Los Angeles. We opened a new service center in South Whittier – Liberty Community Plaza, which serves the growing needs of the veteran community. Our Women’s Veterans Program continues to expand its audience and receive recognition throughout the county and state. More than 300 women veteran’s claims were filed, generating \$26 million in compensation benefits.

Our Military Reservist Leave Coordinator partners with county departments to ensure that employees who are active military reservists receive the salary and benefit coverage to which they are entitled during their service to our country.

On November 11, we launched the Veteran Driver License and I.D. program. In just one month, we verified more than 1,000 applications so veterans can apply for the veteran designation on their driver’s license or I.D. card.

We also celebrated the 70th Anniversary of the Ending of World War II, presenting 180 heroes with World War II medals and honoring their service.

The department also submitted the Homes for Heroes report that focused on strategies to connect homeless veterans to a stable permanent home. Among other things, we recommended improving access to existing housing stock, removing the multiple financial and procedural move-in barriers, and tightening the Housing Safety Net, including the veteran’s claims process.

The Board of Supervisors recognized the County Veteran of the Year, Irene Cruz, along with our Veteran’s Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, Dick Littlestone. Corporal Cruz, a Marine veteran, has helped homeless veterans obtain housing, employment and veteran’s benefits. Colonel (ret) Dick Littlestone, an Army veteran, began his civic engagement during the 1984 Olympic Games held in Los Angeles. Colonel Littlestone is an 18-year advocate for the veteran’s columbarium annex at the Los Angeles National Cemetery.



MUSEUM OF ART

Michael Govan

CEO AND WALLIS ANNENBERG DIRECTOR

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“For the fifth year in a row, LACMA welcomed more than a million visitors to its campus—nearly 60% of whom visited for free thanks to programs like our NexGen youth membership program.”

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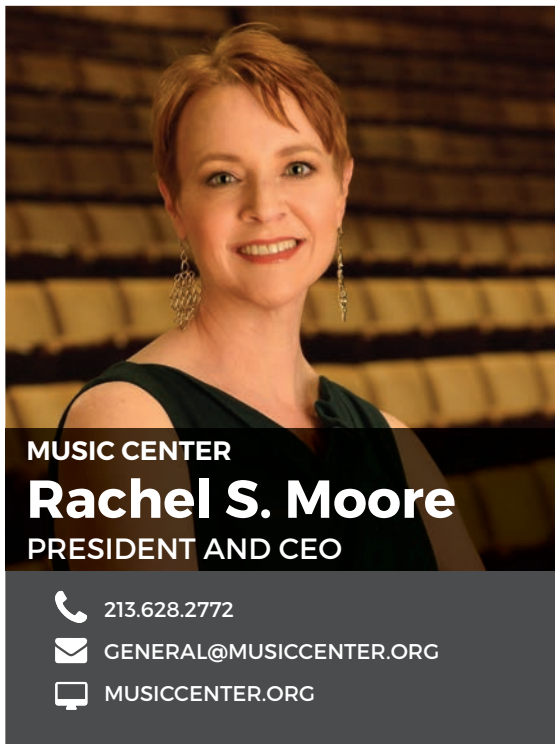
In our last fiscal year, the County of Los Angeles, alongside one of the city’s most generous private philanthropists, took significant steps toward the next phase of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art’s evolution. In November 2014, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a Plan of Finance for LACMA’s East Campus replacement building, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Peter Zumthor. The building, which is scheduled to be completed in 2023, will provide a better display for LACMA’s collection of works and create more open, accessible space for visitors from near and far. The approved plan includes a county contribution of \$125 million, to be matched by private donations of \$475 million. As a public/private partnership, LACMA will look to the generosity of the county’s civic and business leaders to fund more than 75% of the building’s cost.

After the Supervisors’ vote, A. Jerrold Perenchio announced his promised gift of nearly 50 masterpieces of Impressionist and Modern art, including works by Degas, Manet, Monet and Magritte. Mr. Perenchio made his promised gift—the largest single gift ever made to LACMA—with the confidence that these works will one day be on view in one of the world’s most beautiful spaces for art.

LACMA opened our 50th anniversary year with a gala celebrating significant gifts of art from our generous supporters. We presented 47 diverse exhibitions, including Samurai, Pierre Huyghe, Archibald Motley, African Textiles from the Mis Collection, Ed Moses, and Larry Sultan. With generous support from the county’s Productivity and Investment Fund, we also have transformed a part of our library into the Art + Technology Lab and launched a program championing technology-based artist projects through grants and in-kind support from leading technology companies. This initiative is part of The Hyundai Project: Art + Technology, a historic 10-year partnership with Hyundai Motor Company exploring the convergence of art and technology.

For the fifth year in a row, LACMA welcomed more than a million visitors to its campus—nearly 60% of whom visited for free thanks to programs like our NexGen youth membership program (free for all children under 18), and our weekday “Free after 3” program, which grants free admission to all Los Angeles County residents from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. LACMA also continued its ambitious arts education initiatives in 499 schools and libraries, reaching nearly 95,000 students.

Angelenos deserve access to the very best artworks of all times and all cultures. We’re delighted to carry out this mission for Los Angeles County, and we thank the county—and you—for your support and patronage.



MUSIC CENTER

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PRESIDENT AND CEO



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“The Music Center welcomes more than two million people each year to enjoy live performances as well as free arts events at its campus and at Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles.”

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Last year was a very notable one for The Music Center—Los Angeles County’s leading performing arts center. We expanded our impact in downtown Los Angeles and throughout the county with new programming; broadened our reach to children and families through arts education, community partnerships, events and activities; and celebrated the artistic prowess of our four world-class resident companies – LA Phil, LA Opera, Center Theatre Group and the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

The Music Center welcomes more than two million people each year to enjoy live performances, as well as free arts events at its campus and at Grand Park in downtown Los Angeles. Demonstrating our commitment to engage a younger generation and diverse communities, this year we expanded our summer programming to attract an audience of young, culturally diverse adults. From June through August, we activated The Music Center Plaza every Friday night with DJs and free Dance Downtown dancing-under-the-stars experiences. Our highly successful work in Grand Park reached new levels, with events such as Grand Park’s Bookfest and Grand Park’s Día de los Muertos. Our July 4 and New Year’s Eve events reached new milestones with Grand Park + The Music Center’s N.Y.E.L.A. now recognized as the west coast’s flagship New Year’s Eve celebration.

Glorya Kaufman Presents Dance at The Music Center continues to bolster its international stature by presenting new and emerging artists along with classic works. We introduced an exciting new chapter in dance with the world premiere of BalletNow, an original three-performance program commissioned by The Music Center, featuring an international ensemble of 18 major dancers from 12 countries.

Audiences also experienced The Music Center campus in new ways with our commission of Moves After Dark. This sold-out series featured four L.A.-based female-led dance companies performing in unexpected places such as inside the pool of The Music Center’s Mark Taper Forum, in The Music Center’s Dorothy Chandler Pavilion Founders’ Room and on the steps of The Music Center’s Walt Disney Concert Hall. We also premiered Sleepless: The Music Center After Hours, a late night, immersive, multi-sensory series that transforms our iconic buildings sonically, visually and spatially.

The Music Center and its resident companies are highly committed to arts education and outreach programs that provide access to the arts to the many communities that comprise L.A. County. Collectively, we reached more than 1.1 million students, teachers, parents and members of the community with these programs.

As The Music Center’s new president and CEO, I’m committed to moving The Music Center forward with the strength, ingenuity and creativity to meet and exceed the needs and interests of Angelenos, helping to define what it means to be a performing arts center of the 21st century.



NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
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“The Natural History Family of Museums serves nearly 1.2 million people a year at three sites, and its audience reflects the diversity of Los Angeles County’s underlying demography.”

The Natural History Museum has been transformed, filled with indoor and outdoor events befitting a new kind of natural history museum. Visitors will always treasure our dinosaurs, dioramas and gems and minerals. With the addition of the Nature Gardens, Nature Lab and citizen science, we have become a museum of living nature and natural history.

The Natural History Family of Museums serves nearly 1.2 million people a year at three sites, and its audience reflects the diversity of Los Angeles County’s underlying demography. The Natural History Museum is the first and only museum many Angelenos have ever visited. Many visit as families and school groups but, increasingly, they’re coming in groups of adults of all ages, many of whom have limited access to open space and little experience with nature or wildlife.

We have filled the gardens with free nature walks and activities for school kids, along with exciting citizen science projects and nature events and festivals. When our visitors learn about urban wildlife—surprisingly diverse even in the densest parts of the city—they go home to see and treat their surroundings in new ways.

We’ve also enhanced the visitor experience at the La Brea Tar Pits and Museum (including the Page Museum building). We refreshed the entrance, lobby and gallery spaces and created a 3D theater. We installed new illustrated informational panels around the park, which better tell the story of both the history and the current scientific excavations at the tar pits.

We continued our busy slate of events and family friendly festivals at the William S. Hart Museum, as well. On a consistent basis, the Santa Clarita community can count on the Hart to serve as a fun and educational gathering place. We are beginning plans now to bring some of our citizen science activities and events that focus on local nature up to Newhall—making sure all three sites connect indoor exhibits with the environment and ecology outside.

We hope you’ll visit us soon to enjoy the Natural History Museum’s enriching and broadening experiences.



OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

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“We educate the country’s most vulnerable students, annually providing direct classroom instruction for thousands of young people, including children with severe disabilities, juvenile offenders and others at high risk of dropping out or with unique needs.”

The Los Angeles County Office of Education is the largest regional education agency in the nation, serving the county’s 80 school districts and 2 million preschool and school-age children.

We educate the country’s most vulnerable students, annually providing direct classroom instruction for thousands of young people, including children with severe disabilities, juvenile offenders and others at high risk of dropping out or with unique needs.

Last year, we continued to make big strides in our wide-ranging school reform effort to boost the quality of education in our juvenile court schools.

We saw dramatic gains in test scores as we successfully implemented programs to enhance instruction, motivate and engage our students, and give them the skills to succeed.

We continued to expand our “Road to Success Academies,” an award-winning model of instruction and intervention for incarcerated youth. The approach features interdisciplinary, project-based learning focused on themes that address students’ academic and mental health needs. It incorporates activities to promote self-esteem and empower students to make positive choices and behavioral change.

In addition, we continued to effectively oversee the state’s largest Head Start grantee program, serving thousands of preschool children and their families.

Districts also turned to LACOE for state-of-the-art technology services and specialized training and professional development for teachers and school administrators.

On the business side, we monitored and helped ensure the fiscal solvency of county school districts and reviewed annual budgets. We helped districts save, and safeguard, their money through the cost-effective delivery of essential administrative and business services.

Our accomplishments keep us energized as we continue to serve students, support communities and lead educators in promoting educational excellence and making a difference in children’s lives.



PARKS AND RECREATION

John Wicker

ACTING DIRECTOR



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“A large part of that mission involves connecting people with nature. For example, we launched *trails.lacounty.gov* with a wealth of resources for hikers, mountain bicyclists, and equestrians on L.A. County’s incomparable multi-use trail system.”

It is an amazing time for the Department of Parks and Recreation as we continue to build on our commitment to providing places and programs that help residents lead more fun, enriched and active lives.

A large part of that mission involves connecting people with nature. For example, we launched *trails.lacounty.gov* with a wealth of resources for hikers, mountain bicyclists, and equestrians on L.A. County’s incomparable multi-use trail system. The opening of an Oak Woodland at Descanso Gardens, meanwhile, provided new acreage to the public, while giving visitors a glimpse of what the region looked like centuries ago. Phase I of a multi-year rehabilitation project began at the Tesoro Adobe Historic Park.

We also brought new facilities and major improvements to existing resources, including the beautiful new 3,300-square-foot community center at San Angelo Park. The \$14.8 million Belvedere Aquatic Center made a splashy summer opening, featuring East Los Angeles’ first Olympic-size outdoor swimming pool. At El Cariso Community Park, \$13 million in improvements were also completed in autumn—including new sports fields and a Universally Accessible Playground.

We yelled “play ball!” at new Dodgers Dreamfields in parks in South L.A. and Compton, while the West Athens community celebrated the grand re-opening of Helen Keller Park with a host of new amenities for the community to enjoy. Also, the county’s newest addition, Faith and Hope Park, has a name that reflects a community instrumental in its realization and shows that with a little faith and hope anything is possible.

A brand-new location bloomed in spring last year: Orange Grove Park, with 5.5 acres of parkland set against the picturesque Hacienda Heights hills. Amenities include a jogging path, children’s play area and exercise stations. Nearby, surrounded by seven acres of park space, a host of performing arts-related features at the newly-opened, 21,000-square-foot Hacienda Heights Community Center is revolutionizing the concept of a local gathering place.

Looking ahead, we will press forward in our mission to serve Los Angeles County’s 10 million-plus residents. At the center of everything we do stands our guiding principle: “Parks Make Life Better!”



PROBATION

Cal Remington

INTERIM CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

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“A large part of that mission involves connecting people with nature. For example, we launched trails. lacounty.gov with a wealth of resources for hikers, mountain bicyclists, and equestrians on L.A. County’s incomparable multi-use trail system.”

The Los Angeles County Probation Department is committed to rebuilding lives and working for healthier and safer communities. We’ve remained fiscally prudent while implementing best practices in service delivery and improved personnel recruitment. Among our achievements in recent years, we have reached full compliance with a 2008 Department of Justice Memorandum of Agreement for Juvenile Probation camps. We’ve also held Peace Officer Academy orientations resulting in the graduation of more than 250 officers who have joined the ranks in juvenile institutions and the field.

We’ve established educational and vocational pathways for youth detained in halls and camps that include Career Technical Education programs and college courses at some of our camps and halls. Meanwhile, ground has been broken at Camp Vernon Kilpatrick, paving the way for the LA Model, which emphasizes cottage-style housing to better support rehabilitative treatment and behavioral modification interventions.

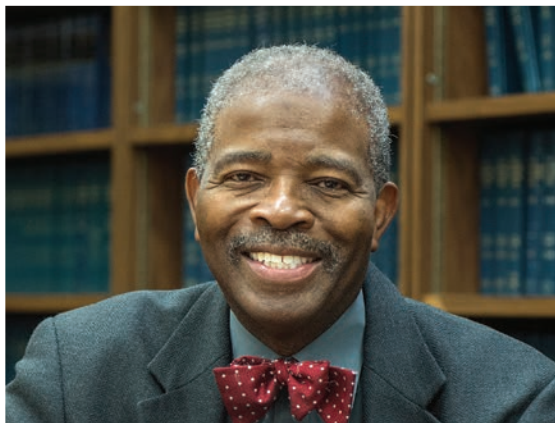
Our Field Services now operates four Day Reporting Centers and six new AB 109 offices in addition to the 21 area offices and five sub-offices throughout the county. Approximately 82,000 adults and 27,000 juveniles were monitored, supervised and resourced as part of their case plans.

Abolishing the commercial sexual exploitation of children also remains among the department’s priorities as part of a multi-agency response to growing sex trafficking in the county.

On Skid Row, our innovative Probation Mobile Command Unit enables homeless probationers to remain in compliance with court orders by reporting to a probation officer for supervision. Probationers also receive treatment, housing and employment assistance, and community partners donate health and hygiene items.

Looking ahead, we’re excited about a partnership with the state attorney general’s office to pilot the Back on Track – LA program, aimed at reducing recidivism through the medical field’s model of early intervention for incarcerated offenders. This model offers cognitive behavioral management treatment, completion of high school or vocational education, learning life skills and an intensive re-entry process that includes job placement and housing.

The men and women of the Probation Department are proud of their continued successes in making a difference in our communities.



PUBLIC DEFENDER

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PUBLIC DEFENDER



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“We are proud of our 34 offices throughout L.A. County. We are a career office with diversity of gender, ethnicity and cultural heritage. All Deputy Public Defenders are attorneys, fully licensed to practice law by the California State Bar.”

With 101 years of continuous service to the citizens of Los Angeles County, the Office of the Los Angeles County Public Defender is proud of its stellar legal representation for indigent criminal defendants, juveniles and persons facing incarceration in Mental Health proceedings. We provide these services in more than 300,000 matters in the Superior Court throughout Los Angeles County, as well as in State and Federal Appellate Courts.

The United States and California Constitutions mandate the appointment of counsel in criminal cases for indigent persons. Fifty years before the U.S Supreme Court mandate, Los Angeles County was providing these services through our office.

The determination of whether a defendant qualifies for representation may be made by the Public Defender or the Court. The standard used to determine indigence examines all aspects of a defendant's finances. If individuals have sufficient financial assets to afford private counsel, they are not eligible for legal representation by the Public Defender. At the conclusion of the case, the Court may assess a defendant the cost of legal representation provided by the Public Defender or other appointed counsel based on the defendant's ability to pay.

We are proud of our 34 offices throughout L.A. County. We are a career office with diversity of gender, ethnicity and cultural heritage. All Deputy Public Defenders are attorneys, fully licensed to practice law by the California State Bar. The primary objective of the department is to provide outstanding legal representation in a cost effective manner.

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about our office.



PUBLIC HEALTH

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DIRECTOR

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“We provided more than 72,000 vaccines and performed other routine public health activities to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, such as whooping cough, measles, influenza, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections.”

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The Department of Public Health (DPH) is committed to the vision of healthy people in healthy communities through the delivery of 39 diverse programs that protect and promote health, prevent disease and advance the well-being of L.A. County residents. Every day, our workforce strives to be an active partner in improving your health.

Last year, Public Health enhanced community health through multiple initiatives and programs.

DPH protected residents against illness, epidemics and health-related emergencies. We provided more than 72,000 vaccines and performed other routine public health activities to prevent the spread of infectious diseases, such as whooping cough, measles, influenza, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted infections.

The department ensured that children and families had access to preventive healthcare. We assisted 22,500 children and adults in securing healthcare insurance coverage.

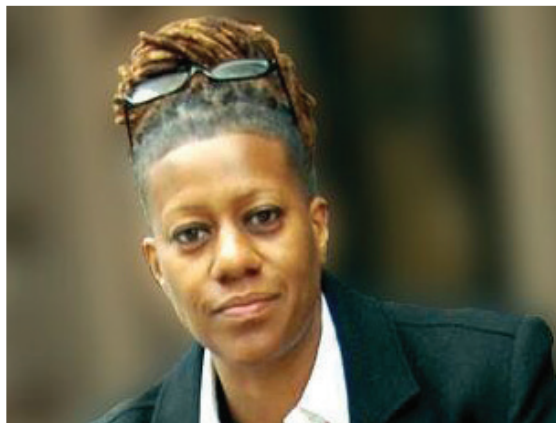
In addition, DPH advocated for safer community environments. We collaborated with the county's Housing Authority to expand smoke-free policies in 63 of their public housing developments, protecting 6,500 residents from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

We played a prominent role in halting industrial pollution caused by a battery recycling facility in Vernon by assessing its environmental impact and informing stakeholders of its significant health hazards to residents. In addition, we collaborated with state regulators and issued a health directive to the Southern California Gas Company to mitigate the effects of an extraordinary large natural gas leak in the Porter Ranch area.

The department developed and launched a Countywide Community Health Improvement Plan with input and participation from a wide range of community partners. It identified ten key goal areas to protect and improve health for residents throughout the entire county.

For its work, DPH was recognized as a national leader in local health innovations. We were awarded a Health Equity Award for Exemplary Large County Practices by the California Endowment for our Parks After Dark Program, a collaboration with several County departments. Our Healthy Food Procurement Program was highlighted in multiple toolkits and case studies nationally, including USDA's SNAP-Ed Strategies & Interventions Toolkit.

DPH will continue to work for you to protect and promote health and control diseases. Visit our website at ph.lacounty.gov, where you can learn more about our department and find reliable health information.



PUBLIC LIBRARY
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“Our '24-7 Virtual Library' officially became our highest-circulating library, with 1 million online visits last year – earning us a Top Ten Award from the Quality and Productivity Commission.”

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County of Los Angeles Public Library gives you the freedom to connect, explore and create – whatever your needs or dreams. And our patrons agree because our libraries are more popular than ever. During the last fiscal year, more than 11 million people visited our 86 libraries– checking out 13.9 million items, placing over 2.5 million items on hold and enjoying over 2.7 million free Wi-Fi sessions.

During 2015, we opened new and fully renovated libraries in Castaic, Manhattan Beach and Stevenson Ranch. New constructions and renovations are underway at A.C. Bilbrew Library in Willowbrook and in Artesia, Culver City, Lomita, Los Nietos, Quartz Hill and South Whittier.

As we continue this wave of capital construction, we've placed ourselves at the forefront of green building practices. Seven county public libraries have achieved Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification as set by the U.S. Green Building Council.

With our exceptional programming and other resources, the County of Los Angeles Public Library proves that libraries have evolved beyond books.

Our libraries are centers of community engagement benefiting youth. We provide critical early learning programs and story times, free online tutoring for grades K-12, book clubs in the library and at probation camps and a diverse menu of quality arts and cultural programming. In response to community need, we have added Science, Technology Engineering, Arts and Math (STEAM) programming for preschoolers through teens.

Recognizing that our communities need to be healthy before they are ready to read and learn, we have piloted a “Lunch at the Library” program at Carson and Norwalk Libraries. The program provides nutritious lunches to children in the summer when they do not have access to school lunches. We plan to expand this program to additional libraries.

Other notable programs include our annual Summer Reading Program which keeps youth engaged during out-of-school time so they return to school prepared to learn. The program is open to any child or teen in the lunch program.

Through partnerships with other Los Angeles County Departments, such as Sheriff's, Probation, Parks and Recreation, Department of Children and Family Services, Mental Health, Office of Child Protection, Community and Senior Services, the Library reaches more and more underserved families and youth.

The County Library has expanded our digital collections to offer customers eBooks and other resources – anywhere, anytime. Our “24-7 Virtual Library” officially became our highest-circulating library, with 1 million online visits last year – earning us a Top Ten Award from the Quality and Productivity Commission.

So, stop by your local County Public Library today, or connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @LACountyLibrary. And visit the library website anytime at www.colapublib.org!



PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES

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DIRECTOR



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“In Los Angeles County, approximately 2.9 million individuals now receive Medi-Cal benefits through DPSS, including hundreds of thousands of parents and single adults who were previously deprived of a medical home and regular access to healthcare.”

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Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services is the second largest locally-operated social services agency in the nation. It provides services to 3.3 million low-income residents, processes over 150,000 applications monthly and distributes more than \$5.5 billion dollars annually in benefits.

Programs administered by DPSS include: health care coverage through the Medi-Cal Program; CalFresh Nutrition Assistance; CalWORKs financial, homeless, employment and supportive services assistance through welfare-to-work programs; In-Home Supportive Services to help the disabled and elderly to remain safely in their own homes; and financial, homeless and employment assistance for indigent adults through the General Relief program.

One of the department's greatest recent successes followed the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which made affordable health-care coverage available to millions of uninsured and under-insured individuals. As the nation watched, DPSS processed more than 1 million newly-eligible individuals into Medi-Cal under the ACA. In Los Angeles County, approximately 2.9 million individuals now receive Medi-Cal benefits through DPSS, including hundreds of thousands of parents and single adults who were previously deprived of a medical home and regular access to healthcare. DPSS partnered with other county departments and countless community partners to enable Los Angeles County to lead the state and nation in successfully implementing healthcare reform.

Another major achievement occurred on September 29, 2015, when DPSS successfully launched a new computer system pilot known as the LEADER Replacement System, or LRS. This system will fully replace the case management and benefits eligibility system used to track services and issue reports for the 3.5 million county residents who receive public assistance. When fully implemented, LRS will consolidate several proprietary systems currently used by DPSS and five systems being used by the county's Department of Children and Family Services to manage its child safety programs. To date, LRS has more than 1,800 active users, manages nearly 530,000 cases and has issued more than \$44 million in benefits.

To succeed in these massive efforts, DPSS has leveraged a full range of innovative technologies, including a state-of-the-art Customer Service Center, an online portal for program applications and participant information (“Your Benefits Now”) and an Electronic Document Management System, which has made paper files a thing of the past.

DPSS is fully committed to using leading-edge technology to enhance both its customers' experience and employee efficiency. DPSS proudly embraces the County's overall mission of “Enriching Lives through Effective and Caring Service.”



PUBLIC WORKS

Gail Farber

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“County Waterworks District customers achieved the mandatory reduction goals for 2015 by conserving more than 69 million gallons of water.”

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Last year marked the 100th anniversary of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and we celebrated the groundbreaking work of our flood control pioneers with special events and a commemorative documentary with rare footage. Visit our website—dpw.lacounty.gov—to watch.

In 2015, we invested heavily in water conservation as California entered its fifth year of drought and Governor Brown issued an Executive Order to reduce potable urban water use across the state by 25%. County Waterworks Districts enacted mandatory water restrictions and partnered with California’s Save Our Water Campaign to inspire consumers to make permanent reductions in daily use. Overall, County Waterworks District customers achieved the mandatory reduction goals for 2015 by conserving more than 69 million gallons of water.

Public Works was also busy preparing County infrastructure and our communities for the upcoming El Niño storm season. Working with our County emergency management and safety personnel, we launched a County El Niño Preparedness website and a public safety outreach program, including more than 70 town hall meetings. In total, over 4,000 miles of County roadway drains, 417 miles of concrete channels, 82,000 catch basins and 3,300 miles of underground storm drains were inspected and cleaned to reduce flood risk. In addition, 172 debris basins and 27 spreading grounds were cleared to ready the County to capture the anticipated rainfall and replenish local aquifers.

In the area of waste management, we continued to work toward a healthy, waste-free future. We collaborated with our regional waste haulers and the 88 cities across the County to develop a Mass Debris Removal Plan to prepare for El Niño and major disasters. The Plan provides policy and guidance for prompt removal and disposal of disaster related debris in the event of an area-wide event.

We also supported the County’s Homeless Initiative by delivering the \$30 million Downtown Mental Health Center Project to combat homelessness and enhance the quality and capacity of mental health services. In addition, we delivered the \$3.7 million MLK Recuperative Care Center that will provide extended health care and access to housing for 900 to 1,400 homeless patients per year. In total, we delivered 20 new county buildings valued at over \$67 million and broke ground on the new \$472 million Rancho Los Amigos Rehabilitation Center, the largest rehabilitation hospital in the Western U.S.

Meanwhile, we continued to improve the quality of life in our communities by addressing 3,100 code enforcement complaints and, as public safety first responders, handled more than 50,000 service calls.

These represent just a few of our many accomplishments in 2015. To learn more about our work visit dpw.lacounty.gov. You can also follow us on twitter @LAPublicWorks.

For 100 years we’ve been protecting and enriching lives, and the men and women of Public Works are always ready to serve!



REGIONAL PLANNING

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The Department of Regional Planning provides land use planning services to the residents and business located in the 2,600 square miles of unincorporated Los Angeles County. This past year, we completed the County's General Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors, and a significant update to our Zoning Code, simplifying and making it much more user-friendly.

In November, we launched EPIC-LA, our new electronic permitting system. The system allows applicants to submit plans and payments electronically and track their projects online. The Department's management team will also use the system to monitor our performance and to identify areas of customer service enhancement.

Finally, the department is contributing significantly to major countywide initiatives on homelessness/housing, as well as sustainability. Please visit our website frequently – planning.lacounty.gov – where the content is updated to keep you informed and provide quality data. We look forward to working with all stakeholders on new projects in the coming year.

“This past year, we completed the County's General Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors, and a significant update to our Zoning Code, simplifying and making it much more user-friendly.”



REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

Dean C. Logan

REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

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“In the past year, our department recorded more than 1.4 million documents, issued 698,000 copies of vital records, 52,000 marriage licenses and processed more than 212,000 fictitious business name filings.”

At the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, we take pride in serving the largest and most complex county election jurisdiction in the country. We also work hard to ensure the proper maintenance of the nation's third largest inventory of public records.

The core of our services lies in establishing and retaining a record of the lives, identities and electoral participation of all L.A. County residents.

In the past year, our department recorded more than 1.4 million documents, issued 698,000 copies of vital records, 52,000 marriage licenses and processed more than 212,000 fictitious business name filings.

Additionally, we administered 5 elections across Los Angeles County and certified vote totals for more than 500 candidates and 14 measures.

We also embarked on the next phase of our Voting Systems Assessment Project – our department's initiative to replace all current voting systems in the county that are at the end of their functional life cycles. This project has put our department in the national spotlight for local government innovation and outreach. By collaborating with numerous community stakeholders—from language-minority advocates to disability and civil rights advocacy groups—we have been able to ensure the new voting system for L.A. County will be able to engage voters and prospective voters in a manner that is familiar, meaningful and accessible. We anticipate full implementation by the 2020 election cycle.

Every day, when we open our doors, our department strives to meet the residents of Los Angeles County where they are. We also challenge ourselves to improve our democratic and public processes to ensure the best service for the public we serve.



SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Jim McDonnell

SHERIFF



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“The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was established in 1850 with a tradition of service, integrity and accountability. I and the 18,000 men and women of the nation's largest Sheriff's Department share a pride in the accomplishments. . .”

Last year was one of transition and innovation, and I am proud to share with you a number of historic milestones for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

We launched one of the nation's first Regional Taskforces on Human Trafficking with a special emphasis on fighting the trafficking of children.

The department also developed a partnership with the U. S. Attorney's Office and the City of Compton in the Violence Reduction Network, where our Compton Station is part of a ten-city network looking at the most effective crime fighting and community trust building initiatives.

We entered into joint settlement agreements with the U.S. Department of Justice that have helped us bring committed resources, as well as best practices, to both patrol and custody in areas that include training, constitutional policing models and more effective collaborations with the community. The department now has formal approval by the Board of Supervisors to move forward with a long-overdue Correctional Treatment Center to replace the dilapidated Men's Central Jail and a 20-year jail system master plan to deal with the complex and growing population of individuals suffering from mental illness.

The Sheriff's Department also has proven to be a leader in forensics and data sharing. In 2015, our crime lab received two additional accreditations to become the largest full-service, fully accredited crime laboratory in the United States, serving more than 200 law enforcement agencies.

Our Professional Standards Division launched the Public Data Sharing project on www.LASD.org in an effort to be more transparent about providing information to the public.

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was established in 1850 with a tradition of service, integrity and accountability. I and the 18,000 men and women of the nation's largest Sheriff's Department share a pride in the accomplishments, the diversity of function and combined strength of sworn and professional staff who work every day to be a national leader in law enforcement.



TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR

Joe Kelly

TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR



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“This 'one stop' center now lets taxpayers get answers to property tax questions in one place. This is an important initiative that enhances the delivery of services to the nearly 25,000 taxpayers who visits us each year.”

LACOUNTYANNUALREPORT.COM

The office of Treasurer and Tax Collector performs an array of critical public services. We borrow and safeguard monies of the county, school and community college districts and many other public agencies.

We also bill and collect property taxes and various other debts and taxes owed to the county. In its role as Public Administrator, the office administers the estates of deceased persons who were residents of Los Angeles County.

Among our recent accomplishments, we are most proud of the following:

- The National Association of Counties honored the Treasurer and Tax Collector with a 2015 Achievement Award for its “Redevelopment Bond Refunding Program.” The program was honored as “Best of Category” in the financial management award category. Created by our public finance division in 2013, the program provides successor agencies to former redevelopment agencies in the county with the ability to refinance outstanding debt at lower interest rates. Since its formation, the program has refunded close to half a billion of bonds issued by the former redevelopment agencies, resulting in savings of more than \$100 million.
- The department implemented Internet auction functionality in both our public administrator and tax operations. The Public Administrator auction maximized the proceeds from estate assets, which were later distributed to heirs. The department also conducted two tax-defaulted property online auctions, allowing us to clear inventories and return property in the county to tax-paying status, in an efficient manner.
- We expanded our public service counters to include staff from the County Assessor and Auditor-Controller, “sister” departments in the property tax arena. This “one stop” center now lets taxpayers get answers to property tax questions in one place. This is an important initiative that enhances the delivery of services to the nearly 25,000 taxpayers who visit us each year.
- In a countywide effort to save money and reduce our impact on the environment, departmental staff performed a review of printers, copiers and fax machines, and how we use them. Most of the old stand-alone devices were replaced with a much smaller number of networked multi-function printers.
- The Board of Supervisors recognized us for conducting our 25th Business Continuity Planning Exercise. The Department is focused on ensuring financial stability during an emergency. And these exercises are recognized as a public sector best practice by the county’s financial partners and National Association of Counties.



Los Angeles County is the largest municipal government in the nation. If we were a state, we'd be the 9th largest in population, somewhere between Georgia and Michigan.

Because we are a large organization, we have a large budget – about \$28.2 billion last year.

In 2015, LA County's budget was approximately equal to the state budgets of Indiana (15.4 Billion), Iowa (8.2 Billion) and Delaware (4.7 Billion) COMBINED.

Here's a look at how we build that budget, where the money comes from, and where it's all spent.

The budget process begins in December when 3 dozen departments submit their budget proposals to the Chief Executive Officer.

Since the County must always have a balanced budget, the CEO reviews these requests and weighs them against the projected incoming revenue.

Revenue comes from 4 sources: locally generated revenues, like property tax, state funds and federal funds for programs they mandate us to operate, and other sources.

Other sources consists of many things, including fees paid to the County for services we provide under contract to local cities, like Sheriff patrols, fire protection, public works, and many other municipal services.

By mid-April, the CEO compiles and presents a recommended budget proposal to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

Once the recommended budget has been revised, the Board holds public hearings so that county residents and stakeholders can voice their opinions on budget priorities.

The final budget then goes in front of the Board for approval.

Once the budget is approved, where does the money go?

It goes toward serving you, and for making your community a better place to live. It pays for things like public safety, health, public assistance, parks and recreation, keeping beaches clean, museums and cultural programs, and keeping the government running.

So that's a quick snapshot of the County budget.

For more information, visit ceo.lacounty.gov and click on the budget tab.